NOTICE

JPRS will soon begin publication of a new report in the Worldwide series: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. The report will compile open-source material from all parts of the world on a wide range of environmental topics, ranging from localized pollution problems to global ecological concerns, in all their political dimensions.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735, or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-90-073
Monday
16 April 1990

Daily Report
East Europe

FBIS-EEU-90-073 *16 April 1990*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Havel's Bratislava Summit Speech 9 Apr *[LIDOVA NOVINY 10 Apr]* 1

BULGARIA

Poll Shows Opposition Power Base Expansion *[BTA]* 5
National Interests Defense Committee Holds Rally *[Sofia Radio]* 5
National Interests Committee Opens Conference *[Sofia Radio]* 5
First Conference Ends *[Sofia Radio]* 6
Lilov on Situation of Party, Policies *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 12 Apr]* 6
Lilov Speaks at Turnovo BSP Election Rally *[Sofia Radio]* 6
Lilov, BSP Leaders Speak in Veliko Turnovo *[Sofia Radio]* 7
LITERATUREN FRONT Editor Quits BSP *[BTA]* 7
BSP Official Registration Reported *[DUMA 11 Apr]* 7
Dispute on BSP Official Registration Noted *[DUMA 5 Apr]* 8
Lukanov Attends Election Rally in Sliven *[Sofia Radio]* 8
Presidential Decree on Election Regions Issued *[BTA]* 8
Central Election Commission Explains System *[BTA]* 9
Opposition Begins Weekly News Briefings *[NARODNA ARMIYA 10 Apr]* 9
Social Democratic Party Opens Campaign *[Sofia Radio]* 9
Christian Republican Party Denied Registration *[BTA]* 9
Basic BZNS Election Platform Outlined *[ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 10 Apr]* 9
New Board of Agrarian Party Holds First Meeting *[ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME 10 Apr]* 10
Marxist Movement Increased in Reviving DELO *[BTA]* 11
Figures on Food Shortages, Unemployment *[DUMA 10 Apr]* 11
Polled Workers 'Pessimists' About Future *[BTA]* 12
National Bank Announces New Exchange Rates *[Sofia Radio]* 12
Decree on Free Housing Construction Adopted *[BTA]* 12
Minister Marinova on Expanding Services Sector *[TRUD 11 Apr]* 12
Independent Union Confederation Aims Viewed *[DUMA 11 Apr]* 13
New Trade Union Established in Gabrovo *[DUMA 10 Apr]* 14
Union of Economists 'Resurrected' *[DUMA 10 Apr]* 14
Commission Deplores Crimes in Prison Camps *[BTA]* 14
Concentration Camp Commander Pleads Innocent *[DUMA 11 Apr]* 14
Mass Grave Discovered Near Dobrinishte *[BTA]* 15
Mladenov Greets Patriarch on Easter *[Sofia Radio]* 15
Easter Celebrated Throughout Country *[BTA]* 15
Militia Director Denounces 'Provocations' *[DUMA 10 Apr]* 16
Internal Ministry Warns About Border Smuggling *[Sofia Radio]* 16
Economic Delegation's Washington Visit Noted *[BTA]* 16
Iranian Deputy Industry Minister Meets Lukanov *[BTA]* 16
Cooperation Agreement Signed *[BTA]* 17
France Offers Financial Credits *[BTA]* 17
Number of Citizens Living in USSR Noted *[DUMA 6 Apr]* 17
Mladenov Receives FRG Bundestag Member *[BTA]* 17
Belchev Holds Economic Meetings in London *[BTA]* 17
Boyko Dimitrov on Relations With Latin America *[BTA]* 18

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Further on 'Arafat Visit, Meetings With Leaders 19
Meets With Politicians in Prague *[Prague Radio]* 19
Addresses Journalists in Prague *[CTK]* 19
Talks, Gala Dinner With Havel *[Prague Radio]* 19
Discusses Mideast Issues With Havel *[Prague Radio]* 19
Hails Talks With Havel *[Prague Radio]* 19
Havel, 'Arafat Dinner Toasts *[Prague Radio]* 19
More on Dinner Toasts *[Prague TV]* 20
Further on 'Arafat Statements at Dinner *[CTK]* 20
Havel Dinner Speech *[CTK]* 20
'Arafat Calls Havel Mediation Offer 'Useful' *[Prague TV]* 21
Arrives in Bratislava *[Prague Radio]* 21
Holds Talks With Schuster *[CTK]* 21
Meets Slovak Representatives *[CTK]* 21
Comments on Talks, Visit *[CTK]* 21
Interviewed on Soviet Jews *[Prague TV]* 22
Briefs Newsmen, Departs *[CTK]* 22
Foreign Ministry on Lithuania Trade Halt Results *[CTK]* 23
Further on Soviet Troop Withdrawal *[Prague Radio]* 23
Withdrawal Proceeds in 'Tense Situation' *[Prague Radio]* 23
Troop Withdrawal Begins in Ceska Trebova *[Prague Radio]* 23
News Conference on Security Commission Proposal *[LIDOVE NOVINY 7 Apr]* 23
Havel Sends Letter to Bush, Gorbachev *[Prague Radio]* 24
Havel on Forthcoming Visit to Israel *[Prague Radio]* 24
Mohorita: CPCZ Should Not Be Banned *[CTK]* 24
Civic Forum's Hromadko 'Scandal' Outlined *[PRACE 5 Apr]* 24
Charges Against Ex-Minister Lorenc Specified *[LIDOVE NOVINY 6 Apr]* 25
Reasons for Reichel's Dismissal Unknown *[LIDOVE NOVINY 10 Apr]* 25
Charter 77 Spokesman's Home Reportedly Bugged *[CTK]* 26
Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Interviewed *[Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE 9 Apr]* 26
Latest Unemployment Figures Published *[RUDE PRAVO, PRACE 9 Apr]* 27
Proceedings Against 1968 Instigators Begin *[LIDOVE NOVINY 7 Apr]* 27
Calfa Addresses First Electoral Commission Session *[CTK]* 28
27 Parties Preparing for Assembly Elections *[CTK]* 28
Latest Opinion Poll on Party Preferences *[ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY 10 Apr]* 29
List of Parties Contesting Elections in SR *[Bratislava PRAVDA 11 Apr]* 29
List of Parties Running in CR Elections *[MLADA FRONTA 10 Apr]* 29
Private Farmers Leader on Coalition Preferences *[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE 2 Apr]* 31
New Trade Union Body in Czech Republic *[PRACE 6 Apr]* 31
Czech Minority in Ukraine Sets Up Organization *[PRACE 9 Apr]* 32
Political Prisoners' Aims Outlined *[LIDOVE NOVINY 7 Apr]* 32
Commission Lists Casualties of 17 Nov Events *[Prague Radio]* 32
Civic Forum Periodical To Be Published as Daily *[MLADA FRONTA 6 Apr]* 32

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Kohl, De Maiziere To Meet in Late Apr *[ADN]* 34
Formation of People's Chamber Groups Detailed *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 10 Apr]* 34
Church Leader on Presidential Candidacy *[Hamburg DPA]* 34
Commentary on Formation of New Government *[Oschmann in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 10 Apr]* 34
Finance Minister Designate on Currency Conversion *[ADN]* 35
Preparations for Unification *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 12 Apr]* 35
Monetary Union *[Hamburg DIE WELT 14 Apr]* 35
Upcoming Bush-Gorbachev Summit Viewed *[Wilczynski in BERLINER ZEITUNG 7-8 Apr]* 37
Gysi Comments on Compulsory Military Service *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 12 Apr]* 37
East Berlin Stages All-German Easter March *[Hamburg DPA]* 39
Left-Wing Parties Stage Disarmament March *[ADN]* 39
'FRG Expellees' Organizations Criticized *[Annas in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 11 Apr]* 39
Custom Violations of Imports From FRG *[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 11 Apr]* 40

Police To Be Retrained for All-German Force *[Hamburg DPA]* 40

HUNGARY

Horn Views Current International Issues *[Budapest Radio]* 41
Foreign Minister Meets USSR's Vorontsov *[MTI]* 41
Szuros Receives British Ambassador to Hungary *[MTI]* 41
Foreign Minister Meets Mexican Counterpart *[MTI]* 41
Antall, Poszgay Address Future Government Policy *[MTI]* 42
MDF's Antall on Warsaw Pact, Germany *[Vienna KURIER 14 Apr]* 43
Views EC *[Budapest TV]* 44
Democratic Forum Announces Policy Aims 45
TV Policy *[Budapest TV]* 45
Defense Portfolio *[Budapest Radio]* 45
MDF Talks To Create Governing Coalition *[Budapest Radio]* 45
Coalition Talks Begin *[MTI]* 46
Progress of Coalition Talks *[MTI]* 46
Party Delegates Discuss Assembly Preparations *[MTI]* 46
'Suitable Results' Foreseen for Coalition Talks *[Budapest Radio]* 46
Coalition Talks Limited to Land Law at Present *[Budapest Radio]* 46
Socialist Party To Hold Congress 26 May *[Budapest Radio]* 47
Anti-Magyar Article Published in Romania *[Budapest Radio]* 47
MTI Receives Anti-Magyar 'Manifesto' *[MTI]* 47

POLAND

Government Statement on Soviet Katyn Admission *[Warsaw TV]* 49
Walesa Statement *[PAP]* 49
Sejm Speaker Statement *[PAP]* 49
Katyn Documents Include Names *[PAP]* 49
'No Justification' for 'Falsehood' *[Warsaw Radio]* 50
CSFR Deputy Premier Calls Visit 'Informative' *[CTK]* 50
Meets Cardinal Glemp *[CTK]* 50
Meets Mazowiecki, Ends Visit *[PAP]* 50
Jaruzelski Congratulatory Cable to Mladenov *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 4 Apr]* 51
Jaruzelski on Success of USSR Visit *[PAP]* 51
Planning Chief on Polish-Soviet Trade, Debt *[PAP]* 51
Foreign Ministry 'Demarche' Over Silesian Event *[PAP]* 52
Swiecicki in Washington for Economic Talks *[PAP]* 52
Soviet General: Forces Defending Soviet Interests *[PAP]* 52
Deputy Defense Minister on New Duties *[Warsaw TV]* 53
Sejm Speaker on 'Transitional' Defense Policy *[PAP]* 54
Kiszczak Chairs First Law Observance Committee *[TRYBUNA 28 Mar]* 54
Krakow Militia Placed Under 'Public Control' *[Warsaw Radio]* 55
TRYBUNA Publishes Crime Figures *[3 Apr]* 55
Justice Minister Proposes New Court Structure *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 28 Mar]* 55
Sejm Creates New State Protection Office *[TRYBUNA 4 Apr]* 56
Sejm Discusses New Holiday, Ministry Functions *[PAP]* 57
Interview With Sejm Speaker on Sejm Structure *[PAP]* 58
Ministry Unveils Telephone Plans for Year 2000 *[GAZETA WYBORCZA 30 Mar]* 59
Daily Reports New Veterans Union *[ZOLNIERZ RZECZPOSPLITEJ 2 Apr]* 59
Agriculture Sector Faces Possible 'Collapse' *[SLOWO POWSZECHNE 3 Apr]* 60
Act To Affirm 'Inalienable Right' of Passport *[RZECZPOSPOLITA 5 Apr]* 60
Mazowiecki: Warsaw Not To Be 'Single Commune' *[PAP]* 61
Commission Appointed To Liquidate Press Concern *[PAP]* 62
Geremek Denies OKP 'Protecting' PZPR Assets *[PAP]* 62
'Apphrension' Over TRYBUNA's Future *[Siwiec in TRYBUNA 7-8 Apr]* 62
Government Releases Jan-Mar Economic Statistics *[PAP]* 63
Anonymous Callers Claim Responsibility for Bomb *[PAP]* 63

ROMANIA

Ex-King's Bureau Answers Roman's TV Statements *[Bucharest Radio]* 64
Bratianu on 'Untimely' Visit *[ROMPRES]* 64
NLP Protests 'Anti-Monarchic League' *[ROMPRES]* 65
NLP Disagrees Over Visa *[ROMPRES]* 65
Budapest TV Interviews Former King 65
Iliescu Accuses Hungarians of 'Impatience' *[Budapest Radio]* 66
Military Helicopters Said Circling Transylvania *[Budapest Radio]* 66
Securitate Said Under Interior Ministry Command *[Budapest TV]* 66
Government Legitimacy, People's Confidence Viewed *[ROMANIA LIBERA 28 Mar]* 67
CDU Leader on Election Resource Disparities *[ROMANIA LIBERA 30 Mar]* 67
Writer Dinescu Interview on Political Situation *[Hamburg DIE WELT 5 Apr]* 69
NSF Holds Nationwide Conference *[ROMANIA LIBERA 8 Apr]* 71
Center Democratic Group Leader on Elections *[ROMPRES]* 72
FDP's Nica Leon Candidate for Presidency *[ROMPRES]* 72
CDNPP Nominates Candidates for Parliament *[ROMPRES]* 72
'New Society Party' Formed in Bucharest *[ROMPRES]* 73
Modern Democratic Movement Organization Set Up *[ROMPRES]* 73
Aims of '21 December' Association Viewed *[ROMPRES]* 73
Political Organizations' Leanings Analyzed *[ROMPRES]* 73
Economy Minister on Privatization Strategy *[ROMPRES]* 73
Deputy Premier on Recovering Foreign Debt *[ROMPRES]* 74
Import-Export Firms Applications Received *[ROMPRES]* 74
NSF Publishes New Daily AZI *[ROMPRES]* 75
NSF Issues New Scientific-Cultural Weekly *[ROMPRES]* 75

YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Ministry Considers Ties With Israel *[TANJUG]* 76
Soviet Army Delegation Pays Visit *[TANJUG]* 76
Kadijevic Meets Delegation *[TANJUG]* 76
Civil Aircraft Deal Concluded With USSR *[TANJUG]* 76
Markovic Congratulates New GDR Premier *[TANJUG]* 76
Jovic Holds Talks With PLO's Salah Khalaf *[TANJUG]* 76
Further on PLO Envoy *[TANJUG]* 76
Further on Cypriot President's Visit *[TANJUG]* 77
Economic Cooperation Talks *[TANJUG]* 77
Vasiliou Ends Visit *[TANJUG]* 77
Slovene Parties Not Ready for Cooperation *[TANJUG]* 78
Demos 'Optimistic' About Election Results *[TANJUG]* 78
Pucnik Discusses Demos Plans, Constitution *[Ljubljana Radio]* 78
Slovene, Croat Opposition Says Yugoslavism 'Dead' *[OSLOBODJENJE 8 Apr]* 79
Warning of 'Electoral Manipulations' in Croatia *[TANJUG]* 79
Racan Addresses Istria Communists *[BORBA 9 Apr]* 80
Racan Discusses Party's Chances in Elections *[VJESNIK 8 Apr]* 80
Croat Communists on Army 'Interference' *[Belgrade Radio]* 82
Commentary Assesses Croatian Political Parties *[Jovic in BORBA 10 Apr]* 83
Croat Coalition Holds Electoral Meeting *[TANJUG]* 84
Daily Views Quarrels Among Croatian Opposition *[BORBA 6 Apr]* 84
Croatian Opposition Parties Against Markovic *[BORBA 5 Apr]* 85
Croat Election Procedures Explained *[Zagreb Radio]* 85
Markovic Predicts Fall in Inflation *[TANJUG]* 86
Markovic Speaks on Economic Reform *[TANJUG]* 86
Obligatory Border Exchange Rate Established *[TANJUG]* 87
Tito, Others Blamed for 'Mass Murder' *[Ljubljana Radio]* 87
Skundric Discusses Situation in LCY *[BORBA 9 Apr]* 87
Constitutional Commission Discusses Amendments *[TANJUG]* 88
3 New Political Parties Founded 15 Apr *[TANJUG]* 89
People's Party Principles Outlined *[TANJUG]* 89
Democratic Christians Outline Views *[Zagreb Radio]* 90

Belgrade Election Program Not Shown *[TANJUG]* 90
Committee for Youth Leaders' Defense Founded *[TANJUG]* 90
Paper on New Parties' Army Concepts *[NARODNA ARMIJA 29 Mar]* 90

Havel's Bratislava Summit Speech 9 Apr

AU1204132890 Prague LIDOVA NOVINY in Czech 10 Apr 90 p 4

["Text" of speech by President Vaclav Havel at the "Meeting 90" at Bratislava Castle on 9 April: "Vaclav Havel's 10 Questions"]

[Text] It is hard for me to explain the great pleasure I find in being able to welcome today so many important and highly responsible guests at this castle, the renowned landmark of Bratislava and the symbolic center of Slovakia. You yourselves know best how many complications had to be overcome for us to be able to meet like this. Therefore, you certainly understand my delight.

First, I would like to say a few words on the composition of this gathering. The highest representatives of three neighboring countries, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary, are present here. Furthermore, important political forces of these three countries are also represented. In addition, we are joined by the ministers of foreign affairs of three other countries, geographically and politically near to us, Austria, Italy, and Yugoslavia. Some of us, public authorities of Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia, hold high state offices; some of those present may inherit office from us. Since we all are concerned with the future of our nations and states, rather than with personal political prospects, this brutal attack on all previously known diplomatic protocol leaves us cool. I am, according to the newspapers, an unconventional president. If you wish, you may credit my unconventionality for this attack on protocol; I certainly will not mind. Just allow me to observe that something far more important than my unconventionality is the reason for this attack. It is something I would denote as the radical unconventionality of this historic moment. It is a moment at which the history of this part of the world began to develop at a speed that not only shocks all politicians and political scientists, but naturally all the protocol that previously prescribed to history our deeply ingrained stereotyped patterns of thought as well. I have a feeling that all of you will understand this reflection of mine, among other reasons, because I consider you all to be my friends, regardless of the fact that there are several persons among you whom I have known only by their work, but whom, until now, I have not met in person.

If I want to begin by explaining the meaning of this meeting, I must take your time with a few words on its genesis. When, shortly after being elected, I visited Hungary and Poland, and thereby had the opportunity to speak with most of you, and then, when with only brief intervals intervening, Messrs. Mock, De Michelis, and Loncar paid me a visit, I discovered two surprising facts: Firstly, that I spoke with them, with some variation, about the same issues. Secondly, that every time when the conversation became most interesting, and I felt like talking with that person until the evening, the protocol officials came running up, and told me that I must immediately go somewhere else and continue this conversation with another one of you. This meant, since the other person was not present at the meeting that had just reached such an interesting point, that this person had to lose valuable time because I had to recapitulate the entire preceding conversation for him. As a person who had entered so-called high politics only a few days earlier and who, therefore, was not used to all the traditional political and diplomatic customs, I had the idea that it would be incomparably more economical for all parties concerned if we continued all together without being disturbed by the protocol officials with their protocol. Many people claimed that this was not possible and that I had gone mad. And therefore: It is possible, and we all are sitting here. Naturally, I do not consider it to be any victory of an unconventional president over conventions, but a victory of reason of us all over political commonplaces, which we are pressed into by plain inertia.

Already by the fact that we have met like this, we have marked our first success. I firmly believe that it will not remain the only success of our meeting.

As I already mentioned, the genesis of our meeting gives some indication of its purpose. It is simple: We must continue an unfinished discussion on how to keep in step with galloping history.

I would like to introduce this continuation of the discussion with some questions because, as we have known since Socrates' times, the best introduction to a debate is a question.

Before I begin asking, however, I must say one thing: If we get close, today to answering any of the questions I am going to raise, it will be an excellent success. Should we manage to attain some kind of answers to all the questions, it would be an almost fantastic success. But—and I consider it to be of utmost importance—if we do not reach any answer; it would not at all mean that our meeting was useless or even that it failed. After all, we did not meet to compose statements but to debate. If we do not find a joint answer to any of the questions, even that will be—paradoxically—a success in a way: Namely, it would mean nothing else but a simple cognition that, at this moment, we are incapable, and it is beyond our powers, to give a meaningful answer to any of the questions, and that we must contemplate everything that will be said here very quickly and very intensely, and that we must also very quickly and very intensely discuss the issues with experts and with the public. Then, very soon, we should continue the unfinished conversation—be it in this or in an alternative composition—here or in any other city, regardless of whether or not this city also has a castle.

And, finally, I begin to ask my introductory questions.

The working title of the task faced today by Poles, Hungarians, Czechs, and Slovaks, is the "return to Europe." Several days ago, at a symposium on ethics and politics that also took place here in Bratislava, a friend of

mine, Czech philosopher Ladislav Hejdanek, observed correctly that this working title was imprecise. We all know that the word return indicates the road back, while we are not concerned with a road back, but forward. This means practically—if you wish—politically, that we cannot go back to Europe of the past decades, i.e., to Europe harshly divided by a high wall into two opposing power blocs. Hence, if we want the so-called return to Europe, we have to return to a different Europe than the one we lived in until recently. In other words: To contemplate our return means for us to think of the whole of Europe, to think of Europe of the future. In addition to the thousands of difficult internal problems with which our countries must deal—each of them on its own and in its own way—and in addition to the numerous problems with which the countries shaking off the totalitarian system must deal jointly, a new assignment is added: It is to contemplate the all European situation. As you probably know, Czechoslovakia is attempting to fulfill this task. The confrontation of our opinions with opinions of many interested foreign partners, including you who are present in this room, helps us to form an idea of what kind of a flow chart marking the stages would be most likely to gain a general consensus, and we attempt to articulate and specify this flow chart. One of the phases of this cognitive process was the Czechoslovak initiative that was recently presented to all CSCE participating countries. We are convinced that it is realistic to ask that this year's summit of these countries, in addition to its agenda, does something more:

1. That it immediately establishes the proposed Commission for European Security as the basis of the new European security system.

2. That it decides that a conference called Helsinki 2 will be held next year, a conference that will have a historical task: to lay the foundations for a new Europe, for a friendly community of independent nations and democratic states that will collectively create a new and specific contractual system for security, political, and economic ties. The rapidly unifying Germany should contribute to this progress. What President Gorbachev has called the European home should be built on the ground plan of existing European borders. Helsinki 2 should, in its own way, become the equivalent of a peace conference that, to date, has not been held in Europe and should contribute to the European countries' certitude. We know it does not make sense to immediately abolish the existing military pacts. However, at the same time, it seems to us that it is necessary to gradually transform them so that they merge into the envisioned new security system. Of course, it is necessary to transform them by very different means in view of their extremely diverse character, structure, mission, and current situation. Within a comprehensive Helsinki security zone and—so to speak—in the background of the guarantees it provides, it should then be possible to speedily establish and develop what President Mitterrand has called European cooperation. This is, undoubtedly, the ideal of all of us and the age-old dream of countless European intellectuals; this should also, finally, make a peaceful home out of our continent.

My first question, then, is: Are we or are we not capable today of approaching a point of view that would express the common direction of our thinking about the Europe of the future?

The long-developing and successfully operating West European integrative mechanisms are collectively called European and not West European; this implies that they should be prepared to gradually accept among them—to various degrees and in various ways—those countries that for decades have been cut off from them.

My second question is: Are we or are we not capable of agreeing that we do not want to hinder each other in entering these mechanisms—or even of agreeing not to envy each other—but that, on the contrary, we want to help each other enter them? Can we even agree to support each other on the road to full membership of the Council of Europe? Can we also agree to support each other on the difficult road toward the European Community?

We have decided to label our deliberations today by the term coordination. The third question we should ask would sound something like: Are we capable of explaining our common stance toward those entities that we are members of—and whose possibilities and tasks are radically changing today—that is, toward the Warsaw Pact and CEMA?

The answer to this question is immediately associated with the entire concept of regional cooperation in our part of Europe. I will now ask the fourth question: Are we capable of finding a common course of action in resolving our ecological, social, cultural, economic, political, and security problems? All these problems are mutually connected somehow and, therefore, we cannot resolve them individually and each in his own way. Do we agree on this?

Messrs. Mock, De Michelis, and Loncar represent here countries allied in the Danube-Adriatic community, of which Hungary, too, is a member and which Czechoslovakia is to join. Even though our brothers, the Poles, realize that, historically, they do not belong to the Danube region, they rightly fear that, once again, they might be pushed aside somewhat from the fast-forming integrative communities and become again the traditionally unfortunate zone between large Germany on the one side and an even larger Soviet Union on the other, both of which are undergoing equally dramatic transformations. If we want to consider one another and be in solidarity with one another, which we must, then we must jointly ponder the political-geographic situation of Poland. The formation of some sort of a northern or Baltic equivalent of the Adriatic alliance is being contemplated, with Czechoslovakia as a geographically logical connecting element between these two working communities. This takes us to the fifth question. Do these

contemplations follow the right direction or not? Does anybody among those present harbor the idea of a more meaningful alternative, and are we capable of agreeing on its meaningfulness?

The starting point of our struggles against the totalitarian rule that was imposed on our countries by the Stalinist Soviet Union after World War II was the struggle for human rights. The sixth question, which arises from the substance of the matter itself, is: Are we capable, also today, of saying clearly and in unison that respect for human rights in the widest sense of the word is a common starting point for our policy?

Central and East Europe are special regions marked by the permanent and often very dramatic mutual permeation, influence, and also suppression of various peoples, national minorities, ethnic groups, and spiritual and cultural initiatives and traditions. This diverse region had been hamstrung for many decades by the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After the fall of this monarchy, the various nations inhabiting this region were looking for a new political identity. Before they could find it in a meaningful way, however, the tornado of World War II blew over here. In the end, we fell into a new long-term and unusually brutal stranglehold, the stranglehold of totalitarianism. This totalitarianism did not tackle any nationality problems but was suppressing all nations in the same or similar manner. Only today, as we are freeing ourselves from this totalitarian stranglehold, are we beginning to see in sharp contours the extent of the problems that have accumulated over decades in this way. The nations' longing to politically articulate their identity soon and the minorities' desire to claim their collective rights are justified and comprehensible. If we use as our premise respect for human rights and if we are building in our countries democratic systems, it means that we want to tackle, the best we can, also all the accumulated nationality problems, this integral part of the sad heritage left to us by the era of brute force, contempt for any uniqueness, and imposed uniformity. Many people who observe the striking goings-on in our part of Europe are asking themselves: Are the fledgling, learning, inexperienced, and immature democracies of Central and East Europe capable of coming to terms with the accumulated nationality problems? Is this ethnically entangled corner of the world, tried and tested by history, not a powder keg that can explode at any time and trigger a new era of misfortune? No doubt, we all reject anxiety of this sort.

My seventh question is: Are we capable of jointly articulating our will to do everything we can to prevent anyone around us from suffering simply because he speaks another language or feels himself to be a member of this or that nation? Are we capable of creating for all nations and national minorities an environment in which they will be able to freely develop their identity? Are we capable, through a system of effective guarantees for observing the collective rights of various nations and ethnic groups, of erecting a firm barrage against all kinds of nationalism and chauvinism?

We know very well that each of the questions I have raised could easily be the subject of an international conference lasting several weeks. Nonetheless, I cannot help but pronounce at least three of the tens of other questions that come to mind as possible starting points for our considerations.

Eighth question: Are we, or are we not, capable of expressing our common worry that the nations of the Soviet Union, which underwent the same experience of totalitarianism as we did, should be able to regain quickly, and by peaceful means, their lost identity and seek their own path toward genuine democracy? We all realize how much harder our path to freedom would have been were it not for the great work of renewal associated with the name of President Gorbachev. But at the same time, though perhaps to varying degree, we all share the concern that this work is losing the needed speed, energy, and courage and that from time to time the Soviet leadership cannot keep pace with the historical processes for which it itself opened the passageway. Hence, I am asking again: Are we capable of jointly delivering our opinion on this issue? Or, to put it in a different way: Is it not even our obligation to jointly deliver our opinion on it?

The ninth question: The people of the PRC desire freedom and we, who are just freeing ourselves from bondage, must understand well their desire. Should we not take some kind of stance also on the forthcoming anniversary of the massacre on Tiananmen Square, which bloodily suppressed the purest thing longed for by every young person: freedom, peace, and humanity? And I would go even further and ask you and myself whether a voice of support for the immensely reasonable and level-headed five-point program of the Dalai Lama of Tibet should not be heard, at long last, also from our part of the globe. After all, it was the PRC itself that at one point was inclined to discuss this program! Are we even entitled to demand identity each for himself if we do not demand it simultaneously for everyone? Do we even have the right to speak about the good if we do not mind evil elsewhere—especially if this is an evil that we ourselves experienced?

And, finally, the 10th and last question: Are we capable of expressing our awareness of shared responsibility for the development of countries of the so-called Third World, which often fear that the current integration processes in Europe will threaten their already very difficult position in the world?

The end of every theatrical play, no matter how short it may be, always refers in some way to its beginning. Allow me therefore, esteemed friends, to recapitulate what I have said already.

If we fail today to arrive at a joint reply to any of the questions I have raised, it will be no tragedy. It will merely mean that the questions were either incorrectly formulated or that we all are slow thinkers. It will only serve as a challenge to think with greater precision and

speed and to continue our debate as soon as possible. If we discover that the situation is even more complicated than we thought yesterday, even such discovery will be a success of sorts. Any acquisition of knowledge and self-knowledge is to be preferred to ignorance, silence, and burying one's head in the sand.

I firmly believe that this short, very general, and, no doubt, simplifying introduction of mine can, precisely because of these qualities, serve well as a challenge to conduct an incomparably more specific, comprehensive, thorough, and, self-evidently, utterly constructive debate.

Poll Shows Opposition Power Base Expansion

AU1404192190 Sofia BTA in English 1843 GMT 14 Apr 90

["Political Sympathies in Equilibrium"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 14 (BTA)—If the elections were held now, the ruling Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) would get 40.7 per cent of the votes of the respondents to a public opinion poll, and the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) [UDF] would collect 29.7 per cent. Nearly 41 per cent of those polled, however, would vote for some party or organisation affiliated to the SDS. Compared to the previous survey, both principal political forces have increased their support, but the opposition's power base has expanded more appreciably. Of the parties forming the SDS, the two most popular ones are the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party (BSDP) and the Nikola Petkov Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS). Nine per cent of the respondents said they would vote for the official Bulgarian Agrarian Party. As few as 5.6 per cent would stay away from the elections.

The past 45 years were assessed as successful by 30 per cent of those interviewed, 36 per cent said they held back the country's advancement, and 21 per cent said they were a total waste.

Apart from an equilibrium of political predilections and a pronounced polarization of public opinion, the poll showed that the electorate sets more stringent requirements to political leaders.

As a whole, political leaders received a less enthusiastic approval than in the previous survey. General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defence, has retained his highest approval rating (72.9 per cent), followed by Mr. Petur Mladenov, president of the Republic (70.3 per cent) and Mr. Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers (66.7 per cent). Mr. Aleksandur Lilov, the BSP leader, got a 51.6 per cent approval and a 17.3 per cent disapproval from those polled.

Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, chairman of the SDS, was approved by 39.3 per cent of the respondents. His popularity has increased but he is still disliked by 33 per cent. The leaders of the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party, Dr. Petur Dertliev, and of the Radical Democratic Party, Prof. Elka Konstantinova, enjoy the fastest growing popularity. Some of the opposition leaders, however, are regarded with more antipathy than sympathy.

The most popular organisation with the respondents is Ecoglasnost (58.5 per cent) which, along with the Green Party (43 per cent), is member of the Union of Democratic Forces. The BSP was approved by half of those polled and disapproved by 22 per cent. The comparable figures for the SDS are 38 per cent and 28 per cent. The official BZNS aggregated a 44 per cent approval rating and the opposition Nikola Petkov BZNS 32.9 per cent. The BSDP is rapidly gaining in popularity, just like its leader. The Social Democrats now receive approval from 32.8 per cent of the respondents.

National Interests Defense Committee Holds Rally

AU1304193790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Many people attended a meeting held in Dimitur Blagoev Square in Shumen tonight under the slogan: "For the future of united and indivisible Bulgaria," which was organized by the Nationwide Committee for the Defense of National Interests. In their statements, the speakers from movements and unions of the "Bulgaria" Association, pointed out that patriotism is capable of uniting the people in the name of the motherland. Appeals were launched for subjecting individual and party interests to the interests of the nation, and against the speculations with the nationality issue.

It was stressed that the participants in the rally distance themselves from manifestations of nationalism, from all kinds of actions likely to discredit their movement. Nevertheless, some extremist opinions were also expressed that should be clarified at the first all-delegates conference of the Nationwide Committee for the Defense of National Interests that is expected to open tomorrow.

National Interests Committee Opens Conference

AU1404134290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Today the town of Shumen is hosting the first general conference of the Nationwide Committee for the Defense of National Interests. Our correspondent Ivaylo Savov reports as follows on the conference proceedings:

[Begin Savov recording] Immediately after the opening of the conference, the delegates stood in silence for one minute in memory of those who perished in the camps near Lovech and at Skravena.

After this, Coordinating Council Chairman Dimitur Arnaudov read a report on the committee's activities. It was pointed out that the formation of 63 committees throughout the country, with almost 770,000 members, provides proof of organizational consolidation during the recent period. The report later outlined the organization's political principles, which support supraparty interests within the framework of the Constitution and the laws of the country, in the name of national unity. The movement's political opponents were also defined, as well as the ways to oppose their viewpoints.

In the speeches that have begun, the delegates are debating the possibilities for consolidating the nation, placing national interests above everything, and acting against speculation with the nationality problem during the election campaign.

The conference will continue its work this afternoon. [end recording]

First Conference Ends

AU1404185690 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] In Shumen today the first delegates' conference of the Nationwide Committee for the Defense of National Interests discussed the committee's activities to date and its goals. In the political report and the ensuing debates on the report, stress was laid on the organizational strengthening of the movement. In the numerous speeches, ways were sought for consolidating the Bulgarian nation and for placing its interests above all. The conference expressed its firm stand against speculating with the nationality issue in the election campaign. The political principles of the movement were characterized as extraparty, lying within the framework of the Constitution and the laws of the country.

The need was emphasized of adopting laws on language and citizenship, as well as of regulating certain orders relating to customs duties and other matters.

The conference delegates held lively discussions on the main program documents of their movement—the statute and the platform, which were adopted unanimously.

The leading bodies of the Nationwide Committee for the Defense of National Interests were elected. Dimitur Arnaudov was elected chairman.

Lilov on Situation of Party, Policies

AU1404183690 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 12 Apr 90 p 6

[Volker Hentges report from Sofia: "Somewhat Left of Center"]

[Text] This was something new: I never received an invitation to a news conference in the house of the party, the former Central Committee headquarters of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP]. But things are different with Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] Chairman Aleksandur Lilov. He met local and foreign journalists there on 10 April. Thus, "promyana" (change) was the keyword he used. In a recent referendum, the great majority of the BCP decided in favor of the BSP. There can be no renewal of the party without changing its name, the reformer Lilov said.

In what state is the party at present? At a special party congress at the beginning of the year, a fierce dispute took place between reformers and conservatives. Several currents were in conflict. Meanwhile, the Alternative Socialist Union, which regarded itself as a parliamentary group, split. Some of its members founded the Alternative Socialist Party. "Now there are indeed different currents," Lilov admits. Although he is the chairman, he cannot give their exact number as the party is in the process of renewal. One of the attributes of this process is that "different points of view and different tendencies characterized by different policies and ideologies are beginning to show." "We do not dramatize this situation; we consider it normal because we want to leave behind the monolithic party characterized by Stalinism." A completely new party type in which different currents are completely normal will develop. "We believe that the best solutions to some problems will be found on the basis of alternatives." However, after a decision has been made, the party must be able to act as a political force, he said.

In answer to my question about his political position in the party, Lilov answered: "I want to be a modern Marxist. My political position is somewhat left of center." The 56-year-old chairman advocates the cooperation of all political forces. Only in this way can Bulgaria's complicated problems be solved.

According to public opinion polls, the BSP has the greatest chances in the elections. At present, it is the best organized and strongest political force in the country. It also did not suffer from members leaving the party in masses, which was typical of other East European communist parties. However, Lilov does not regard a decrease in the number of members as tragic. "It is important for a party that it is modern and strong." The number of members is no guarantee for this. Of course, many things can change in the political landscape until the elections on 10 June because the election campaign has only just started, he stated.

"We struggle for victory in the elections so that we will be able to implement our program of democratic socialism," Aleksandur Lilov stresses. But the most important thing is that the people's voice will be heard in the free elections. The people decide and the party will accept the vote, he said.

Lilov Speaks at Turnovo BSP Election Rally

AU1204192290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] On 12 April in Veliko Turnovo, an election rally organized by the Municipal Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] took place.

The speakers and the thousands of participants expressed their total support for the peaceful transition toward a democratic and rule-of-law state.

Changes—this is what the BSP demands, proposes, and guarantees, said BSP Supreme Council Chairman Aleksandur Lilov, who spoke at the rally. Our party has four basic election slogans: changes, peaceful transition, accelerated and socially correct solution of the crisis, and equal rights and security for all.

Expressing the BSP opinion that the forthcoming elections must be a struggle of ideas and not a political bullfight, Aleksandur Lilov appealed to the participants in the rally to vote for the most worthy and competent candidates.

At the rally it was proposed to nominate Aleksandur Lilov as Veliko Turnovo candidate in the forthcoming elections.

Lilov, BSP Leaders Speak in Veliko Turnovo

AU1304194890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Aleksandur Lilov, chairman of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] Supreme Council, spoke on the approach to socialist ideas, on the approach to the party's renewal, and on other, similar issues in his campaign meetings with students and teachers of the Kiril and Metodi University in Veliko Turnovo, and with representatives of the scientific-technical and artistic-creative intelligentsia in this town today.

The participants in the meeting expressed their views on the BSP election platform and on the processes of renewal in the party. The creative artists and scientists, BSP Supreme Council members who attended the meeting, namely, Yordan Radichkov, Svetlin Rusev, Mitko Isusov, and Stefan Prodev, dealt with the current difficulties in resolving the nationality question and with the methods with which the BSP intends to overcome the dogmas and cliches in evaluating works of art.

In addition to Veliko Turnovo, BSP Supreme Council members attended meetings and rallies in Elena, Gorna Oryakhovitsa, Svishtov, Pavlikeni, and the village of Orekhovo.

LITERATUREN FRONT Editor Quits BSP

AU1504183690 Sofia BTA in English 1808 GMT 15 Apr 90

["Writers' Union Weekly Chief Quits BSP"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 15 (BTA)—Mr Marko Ganchev, a well-known Bulgarian satirist and editor-in-chief of the Bulgarian Writers' Union weekly LITERATUREN FRONT, said today he was leaving the Bulgarian Socialist (formerly Communist) Party [BSP].

"Once I had this membership card taken away against my will. Now I'm giving it up of my own free will, once and for all," said Mr Ganchev, speaking on a TV news and views show this evening. He was referring to his expulsion from the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party] for abstaining from voting on a Writers Union resolution condemning Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. The Bulgarian writer was later on reinstated in his Communist Party membership.

Mr Marko Ganchev said he intended to quit the party and politics after the elections but changed his mind after an attempt to oust him by underhand methods from the editorship of LITERATUREN FRONT.

The "attempted coup", as Mr Ganchev described it, was engineered in his absence by the Communist Writers Club. The satirist claimed that Mr Ivan Granitski, deputy editor-in-chief of the weekly and a senior functionary of the BSP City Council in Sofia, tried to persuade the LITERATUREN FRONT staff to pass a vote of no confidence in Mr Ganchev. Even though he failed, Mr Granitski usurped the editorship while Mr Ganchev was out of town.

The Bulgarian Writers Union, which publishes LITERATUREN FRONT, is an independent cultural and trade-union organization. The interference by a political party in the management of the Bulgarian Writers Union contravenes both the law of the land and the union's statute, Mr Ganchev said.

He accused the Communist Writers Club of a "conspiracy" against the weekly's Editorial Board, of gross intervention in the editing of LITERATUREN FRONT and of attempting to oust the newspaper's management.

BSP Official Registration Reported

AU1304095790 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 11 Apr 90 p 1

[Angel Bonev Report: "The Court of Justice Registered the Bulgarian Socialist Party"]

[Text] The Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] was registered by the Sofia City Court of Justice yesterday. An open court hearing took place in this connection at which a bench of judges from the company court division, consisting of Chairman Iliya Kokinov, Judges Lili Angelova and Violeta Kovachev, and Secretary Nevena Mikhaylova, with the participation of Public Prosecutor Maria Kamenska, examined case No. 1969 of 1990 dealing with the registration of the party's new name, namely, the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP].

BSP Supreme Council Secretary Rumen Serbezov and Vasil Nedev, BSP Supreme Council Presidency member, attended the hearing as BSP Supreme Council representatives. In reporting on the case, the court chairman gave the floor to the BSP representatives. Rumen Serbezov made a declaration as follows: "I support our application and ask you to comply with our request in the form in which we submitted the application. I confirm that we have observed the requirements of the Law and of the Party Statute. A partywide referendum was recently held on the basis of Article 2, letter "e" of the Party Statute, as a result of which the party's name was changed from the Bulgarian Communist Party to the Bulgarian Socialist Party, a name that accurately expresses the party's new goals and tasks, such as the readiness to contribute to the construction of a democratic, just, humane, and rule-of-law state."

Prosecutor Maria Kamenska recommended that the application should be accepted and that the party should be registered under its new name.

Following deliberation, the court pronounced its verdict, according to which the party was registered under its new name.

Following the court hearing, Rumen Serbezov made the following statement to a DUMA reporter:

"The court's verdict confirms the official change of the party's name that correctly reflects our new goals and tasks aimed at the construction of a democratic, just and humane society in our homeland.

"The Bulgarian Socialist Party has adopted and will further develop the eternal values of mankind, such as freedom of the individual, freedom of conscience and speech, equality before the law, people's power, human and social solidarity, social welfare and ecological protection. We are convinced that precisely these values are the fundamental principles of our political goals and socialist ideas."

Dispute on BSP Official Registration Noted

AU1204093590 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 5 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

[Report on interviews with Rumen Serbezov, Bulgarian Communist Party Supreme Council secretary, and Lilya Kasabova, judge from the Sofia City Court of Justice Registration Department, by Angel Stoyanov; place and date not given: "We Have Observed All Requirements"]

[Text] Immediately following the decision of the Supreme Party Council to announce our party's new name—Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP]—Bulgarian Television, in its main news program on Tuesday night, announced that the Bulgarian Socialist Party, which was established on 31 December 1989, insists on preserving its name. The party's spokesman, Yordan Velkov, warned that his party is resolved to fight with all available methods and means for this privilege.

[Stoyanov] What is the legal basis for the present registration of the new BSP following the referendum?

[Serbezov] On 4 April 1990, one day after the official results of the referendum on changing the name of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] were announced at a session of the BSP Supreme Council, we prepared and submitted the following documents that are required for registration to the Registration Department of the Sofia City Court of Justice: an application for the registration of the BSP as the legitimate successor to the BCP; a protocol on the results of the referendum; the party statute; and other documents.

According to the information provided by the Sofia Court of Justice, no other political organization had registered with the court under the name Bulgarian Socialist Party prior to 3 April 1990.

We have observed all requirements of the law as regards the documents and deadlines for registration. We expect the registration to become effective within the envisioned period.

[Stoyanov] Is it admissible for two political organizations to register under the same name?

[Kasabova] It is inadmissible for an organization to register under the same name under which another organization has been admitted for registration.

[Stoyanov] Can you specify the deadline within which the party is supposed to be registered following the referendum?

[Kasabova] The date of the referendum on changing the party's name is of no relevance for the court. It is guided by the deadlines required by law. The court sets the date for hearing the case in an open court session and the sides are considered as having been legally summoned if a seven-day term has elapsed between the handing over of the summons and the court session. The court will issue its decision within seven days, but there is no obstacle to it being issued after the end of the hearing.

Lukanov Attends Election Rally in Sliven

AU1304192290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] A rally in support of the Bulgarian Socialist Party's [BSP] election platform was held in Sliven today. Well-known journalists spoke in favor of the policy of peaceful transition to a democratic society, to the rapprochement with the present-day civilized world.

Andrey Lukanov, National Assembly deputy from Slivent, addressed the rally. He stated that the BSP, as a party of social renewal, categorically rejects the policy of confrontation and hatred as a method of promoting Bulgaria's development.

The forthcoming elections will be an event of decisive importance in Bulgaria's history, Andrey Lukanov stated. This will be the moment of Bulgaria's choice for its future development.

Presidential Decree on Election Regions Issued

AU1304204490 Sofia BTA in English 1843 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 13 (BTA)—The country's election regions for holding of Grand National Assembly elections on 10 June this year, were set today by president's decree. As a result of the mixed system for holding of elections which has been adopted, 200 single mandate and 28 many-mandate election regions have been established, and the number of M.P's [members of parliament] in the latter is also determined.

Central Election Commission Explains System

AU1304183690 Sofia BTA in English
1753 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 13 (BTA)—An estimated 6,200,000 Bulgarians will be eligible to vote in the forthcoming free elections for a Grand National Assembly on June 10, 1990. Prof. Zhivko Stalev, an independent, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, told a news conference here today that in accordance with the law, the one-seat and multi-seat constituencies will be formally announced 55 days before polling-day.

Mr Stalev, a professor of law, explained some peculiarities of the electoral system which will be used: A mixture of proportional and majority representation. He stressed that every Bulgarian citizen who has completed 18 years of age, with the exception of those placed under tutelage, enjoys electoral rights without distinction of sex, religion, ethnicity and property status.

The organization and conduct of the elections will be assigned to three types of electoral commissions: Precinct, district and the central electoral commission.

Opposition Begins Weekly News Briefings

AU1104224390 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA
in Bulgarian 10 Apr 90 p 3

[Vladmir Raychev report: "Opposition Answers Questions"]

[Text] The big piece of news from the opposition on 9 April was that the Union of Democratic Forces [UDF] is starting to give briefings to journalists at 1500 every Monday in the hall of the Sofia Press Agency. On 9 April, Zhelyu Zhelev, Petur Beron, Georgi Spasov, and Ivaylo Trifonov were kind enough to answer questions from journalists.

However, this was the sum total of the news.

We tried to find out what the UDF has to offer Bulgarian youth. The reply was that youth problems form a special section of the UDF program in general, and of each of the individual member organizations in particular. To obtain more information, we were directed to the DEMOKRATSIYA newspaper, in which this program is supposed to be published "in the nearest future." Armed with this exhaustive information, those who have not managed to become subscribers to the newspaper, may join the early morning lineup in front of the newspaper kiosks, with 15 stotinki in their pockets.

Most of the questions naturally concerned the forthcoming election campaign. I venture to assert that the uncertainties in this campaign are increasing and will continue to do so. The great battle will be waged between the two mastodon organizations—the UDF and the Bulgarian Socialist Party. Each of the two organizations proclaims its monolithic unity, which clearly cannot be maintained for ever. It remains for us to hope that at the next election we will be dealing with independent parties that conclude campaign alliances on the basis of more specific goals than the removal of one side from power or the prevention of the other side from gaining it.

Social Democratic Party Opens Campaign

AU1304194290 Sofia Domestic Service
in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Following the presidential decree that set the date for the Grand National Assembly elections, the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party joined the election struggle for the people's votes.

An all-city meeting of the local members, followers, and supporters of this party was held in the Varna festival hall tonight. It was held under the slogan: "Free labor for the free people of a free country."

Bulgarian Social Democratic Party Chairman Dr. Petur Dertliev and Professor Dr. Aleksandur Chirkov, Executive Council member, expressed their views on the forthcoming elections, and the future political and economic organization of life in our country. They stressed that our country needs a great number of capable and talented people today, that democracy and freedom in the full sense of this word are required, and that an independent and happy Bulgaria is required.

Christian Republican Party Denied Registration

AU1204173090 Sofia BTA in English
1635 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Documents For Party Registration Not Approved"—BTA headline]

[Text] Plovdiv, April 12 (BTA)—According to Konstantin Adzharov, chairman of the Christian Republican Party, on April 10, the day on which the Law on the Political Parties was enforced and on which the Bulgarian Socialist Party was registered, the Christian Republican Party was refused the acceptance of documents by the Sofia City Court.

According to the party chairman that was not by accident and was not a traditional bureaucratic obstacle.

Basic BZNS Election Platform Outlined

AU1104164590

[Editorial Report] Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian on 10 April on page 4 carries the 3,500-word "Election Platform (Basic Premises)" of the Bulgarian Agrarian National Union [BZNS].

After a preamble, in which the BZNS points out its independence, the document lists the main goals of the BZNS election campaign, namely:

"Leading the country out of the political, economic, social, and intellectual destruction that threatens it.

"Constructing the firm foundations of our common home in which satisfied, free, and highly moral people will live and work.

"Constructing a new Bulgaria—Deacon Levski's 'pure and holy republic,' and the populist and independent republic envisioned by Aleksandur Stamboliyski and Nikola Petkov."

The Election Platform later points out the adherence of the BZNS to "really good-neighborly and friendly relations with all Balkan countries," "opening to Europe," "maintaining friendship with the Russian people and developing economic cooperation with the USSR," and developing "diplomatic, mutually beneficial economic, and broad cultural relations with all states and peoples on earth."

The Election Platform later stresses the importance of "reviving the proverbial diligence of the Bulgarian people." In this context, the BZNS Election Platform declares the "holy and inviolable nature of private property," and calls for "privatizing the predominant part of the state property by constructing private, collective, and shareholding companies.

Turning to agriculture, the BZNS Election Platform describes "prospering Bulgaria" as a country with "modern agriculture and related light and food industry, tourism, and highly efficient industrial production." In this context, the Election Platform calls for "an immediate and radical agrarian reform," aimed at turning the peasants into "owners of the land, rather than hired hands and farmhands." Further on it demands that "the possibility is granted to all those who are willing, to obtain land," and that the state develops "a new investment policy" aimed at developing agriculture. In order to facilitate the development of agriculture, the BZNS Election Platform suggests to "relieve agricultural workers from taxes for a period of 5 years," "cancel the debts of cooperative farms to the state," and "developing agricultural banks."

The BZNS Election Platform also points out the importance of environmental protection, developing an efficient system of health protection, including private medical services, and guaranteeing a "social minimum income to every member of the family of about 240 leva." The document suggests expanding the rights of pregnant women and mothers, and increasing the allowances paid for children.

Turning to the intelligentsia, the BZNS Election Platform calls for "developing modern science" that will be an "integral part of the world scientific thought and achievements," as well as "developing a democratic educational system, based on state, cooperative, and private schools." In this context, the BZNS Election Platform calls for the "total deideologization of education, science, and culture," and "increasing the standard of living and prestige of the people's intelligentsia in all spheres of social life."

The BZNS Election Platform also calls for "reviving the respect for the Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church, which has contributed so much to the survival of the nation," "equality of church and civil weddings," and "celebrating Christmas and Easter as national holidays."

The final part of the BZNS Election Platform deals with the Bulgarian political system. In this context, the platform calls for a political system "in which the citizens really manage the state," the existence of a "multiparty system, and free expression and competition of political ideas and trends," respecting the "freedom of speech, associations, meetings, and strikes," and "separating the legislative, executive, and judicial powers."

The BZNS Election Platform calls for "abolishing the death sentence," and "eliminating all privileges in state and society based on party membership, official post, and social status." It objects to "violating the rights of the minorities," and calls for "eliminating the medieval system of residence and the bureaucratic regime of travelling abroad."

The BZNS Election Platform ends with an appeal to "all working people of mother Bulgaria, women and men, old and young," to vote with the "orange ballot" for the BZNS candidates, "for peace, bread, people's government, prosperity, and security."

New Board of Agrarian Party Holds First Meeting

AU1104224490 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME in Bulgarian 10 Apr 90 p 1

[Text] The members of the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS] Permanent Board who were elected on 6 April held their first meeting on 6 April. They reviewed the progress in fulfilling the many and varied organizational and current tasks, but the main issue with which they dealt was the organization's preparations for the forthcoming free parliamentary elections. The common view was expressed that these preparations must be speeded up and that everything possible must be done to effectively utilize the various central and local media. In this context, great reliance will be placed in ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME, which must play an even more active part in explaining the BZNS Program and Election Platform. In connection with the election campaign, which had already begun, attention was paid to the need for the BZNS municipal and local leaderships to purchase suitable premises for clubs for their organizations, in order that they may carry out their political and organizing work actively and in normal conditions.

[The report is followed by the names of the nine members of the new Permanent Board, with 4.5-by-6 cm photographs of each member, as follows: "Viktor Vulkov, BZNS chairman; Kostadin Yanchev, Permanent Board secretary; and Permanent Board members: Asen Khristov, Georgi Andreev, Dimitur Kalinov, Dragomir Shopov, Ivan Velichkov, Ivan Glushkov, and Stoyan Bukikov"]

Marxist Movement Increased in Reviving DELO

AU1204205190 Sofia BTA in English 2012 GMT 12 Apr 90

["RABOTNICHESKO DELO Again?"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 12 (BTA)—The Marxist Alternative Movement within the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP) intends to start issuing a paper which will be called either RABOTNICHESKO DELO or RABOTNICHESKI VESTNIK (Workers Paper), it became known from a TV report.

After the ruling Communist Party changed its name and became a socialist one, its paper RABOTNICHESKO DELO was called DUMA.

The Marxist Alternative Movement did not approve the change of the party's name, but declared it would remain within the BSP until the elections. The movement is for the unity of all left forces in the country and of all forces within the BSP which would "prevent Bulgaria from embarking on the path to capitalism".

Figures on Food Shortages, Unemployment

AU1304121090 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 10 Apr 90 p 1

[Dimitrina Aleksandrova article: "The Winter of Our Discontent—in Figures and Percentages"]

[Text] Official sources reveal that nine percent fewer goods were produced between January and the beginning of April 1990, as compared with the same period of 1989. Expressed in figures, this means that 1,588 million leva fewer goods were produced. Industrial goods output fell by 1,338 million leva, or by 9.6 percent, during the aforementioned period.

The falls in production mainly occurred in the machine-building, metalworking, chemical, oil-refining, and food-processing industries. A total of 2,613 fewer housing units were built than in 1989.

According to the enterprises, shortages of raw and other materials and unreceived production-sharing deliveries are the main reasons for the fall in production.

Production suffered losses amounting to 133 million leva as a result of lack of sales, losses of 61 million leva were caused by industrial accidents, and 12 million leva as a result of strikes. Over the whole quarter, we lost goods valued at 150 million leva because certain enterprises discontinued the production of unprofitable goods or loss-making activities, or stopped producing certain types of goods for which no raw materials or markets were available.

Employment

A total of 3,533 workers and specialists were dismissed from 245 enterprises as a result of certain activities being discontinued. However, 3,807 persons found employment in newly created jobs. In the total turnover of cadres, 12,000 more people started work than the number dismissed.

The Market

Retail goods' turnover exceeded that of the first quarter of 1989 by 419 million leva. This increase, however, was obtained at the expense of stocks, or from goods produced by private producers. The value of the goods supplied to the domestic market from the public sector and from imports rose by only 212 million leva.

In the case of 64 percent of the basic types of goods supplied to the domestic market, the quantities delivered were less than in the first quarter of 1989.

As far as foodstuffs are concerned, only a few, namely cheese from cow's milk, dairy fats, chocolate products, fresh fruit and vegetables, beer, brandy, and table wines, were delivered in greater quantities.

Less flour, meat, milk, yellow cheese, eggs, olive oil, sugar and confectionery products, prepared and semi-prepared foods, canned food, fruit juices and nectars, and soft drinks were supplied.

Only 75.8 percent of the amounts of baby food supplied during the first quarter of 1989 were delivered to the market. A rise of 2.8 percent was noted in cereal-based foods, but fruit- and vegetable-based foods fell by 34.7 percent, and milk-based foods by 19.4 percent.

More silk, hemp, linen, and woolen fabrics and printed cloth were available in the market, but fewer cotton fabrics. There were falls in the quantities of footwear and outerwear of all kinds.

Fewer quantities of furniture, stoves, refrigerators, electric water heaters, washing machines, vacuum cleaners, telephones, carpets, household glassware and crockery, ceramic tiles, and ceramic sanitary ware were available, but more televisions, including color televisions.

Supplies of synthetic detergents were only 84.2 percent of the amounts reaching the domestic market during the first quarter of 1990. Supplies of soap were 81.3 percent, toothpaste—84.4 percent, and sanitary and hygiene articles—56.4 percent of the figures for the first three months of 1989. However, toilet paper supplies increased by 14.8 percent.

In the building materials sector, more cement and roof and ridge tiles are available, but brick deliveries fell by 23.6 percent.

There was a sharp fall in supplies of agricultural tools to the domestic market. Compared with the quantities recorded last year, the percentage figures were as follows: hoes, 75.8 percent; spades, 87.1 percent; pickaxes, 40 percent; and axes, 21.2 percent. One might hope that this drop, which is measured, who knows why, in tonnes, is because lighter tools were produced. Be this as it may,

the production of mechanized cultivators offered some chance to our agricultural producers, because 1,001 units were manufactured, compared with 520 for the same period last year.

The quantity of household services carried out was 0.5 percent higher than in the January-March period of 1989.

Foreign Currency Revenues

During the first quarter, 713 million fewer convertible leva were received by the Bulgarian Foreign Trade Bank. Foreign currency exports fell in volume, but outgoings in nonsocialist currencies also fell. The final result was an improvement of 153,300,000 convertible leva in the negative balance, as compared with the first quarter of 1989.

Polled Workers 'Pessimists' About Future

AU1304125890 Sofia BTA in English
1237 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 13 (BTA)—Nearly half of the respondents to the workers '89 public opinion poll expect things to get worse in Bulgaria. The survey, which has been conducted since 1982 among 2,000 industrial, construction and transport workers, showed that "pessimists" and "onlookers" have increased at the expense of "optimists."

Less than 20 per cent believe that "Bulgaria has awakened." The rest take a critical view of the present and the future.

Over 70 per cent of the workers see a way out in the activation of internal political forces. Most hopes are pinned on the National Assembly (34 per cent), on the government (31 per cent) and on the roundtable discussion (26 per cent).

24 per cent of those polled count on the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party, now Bulgarian Socialist Party] to take the country out of the crisis, 22 per cent rely on the opposition Union of Democratic Forces, and 15 per cent on the Bulgarian Agrarian Party. Most respondents (27 per cent) believe that Bulgaria can cope with the crisis only with the concerted efforts of all political forces.

National Bank Announces New Exchange Rates

AU1204185790 Sofia Domestic Service
in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Announcement issued by the Bulgarian National Bank; date not given]

[Text] In connection with the change that took place in the supply and demand of foreign currency by private individuals, the Bulgarian National Bank announces that as of 13 April 1990, new exchange rates will be introduced for the purchase and sale of foreign currency by private individuals. The new exchange rates will be published.

Thus, for example, $100 will be purchased for 880 leva, and sold for 897.60 leva; 100 deutsche marks will be purchased for 517.62 leva and sold for 527.97 leva; and SF100 will be purchased for 584.85 leva and sold for 596.55 leva.

Decree on Free Housing Construction Adopted

AU1204160390 Sofia BTA in English
1509 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Free Contracting in Construction"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 12 (BTA)—The principles of the market economy are introduced in construction. A Ministerial Council decree abolishes the restrictions, which turned the investment process upside down and engendered the so-called "housing complexes." These complexes symbolized the triumph of "barracks socialism" over architecture and common sense.

The document asserts the principle of direct contracting between the interested parties, without state interference. This unties the hands of economic enterprise and creates conditions of a normal investment process. Consumers will at last hopefully receive the house they have requested and not buy what we call "a cat in a sack", i.e., several small boxes in a panel block of flats, which is different from its "brothers" only with the young dwellers' graffiti of football clubs or "heavy metal" bands.

To protect the interests of socially underprivileged and young families and those with many children, who are hardly expected to cope with the "exorbitant" prices of "market"-erected dwellings, the Ministerial Council guarantees the preservation of the prices of houses to be given those people by the municipalities. A program for the expansion of housing construction for socially underprivileged strata has been fashioned.

Minister Marinova on Expanding Services Sector

AU1304100790 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian
11 Apr 90 p 2

[Report on interview with Trade and Services Minister Ekaterina Marinova by Mariya Boyadzhieva; place and date not given: "Services Provide Scope for Enterprising People"]

[Text] Many of those threatened with losing their jobs are directing their attention to the sphere of trade and services. Job vacancies and services in short supply give enterprising people a chance to show what they can do. If one adds the decision by the Council of Ministers to halve taxes and allow the free fixing of wages in trade

and services, evidently one can expect major changes so that the redirection of labor and real offers of work do exist.

This is what I was told by Trade and services Minister Ekaterina Marinova:

"At last the time has come to fill the gaps in the services sector. The state is offering financial help through bank credits to those who wish to become owners of businesses concerned with dry cleaning, car repairs, and construction and building-repair activities. It will also offer them imported raw and other materials, machinery, and installations for dry cleaning and laundry under a procedure determined by the Ministry of Economics and Planning for their purchase in levs or with foreign currency allocations.

"The supply of spare parts for motor vehicle maintenance and repair will be implemented through applications submitted in the established manner to the producers and trading companies. Spare parts can also be purchased from the stores of the 'Mototekhnika' Company. It is expected that many of the former military plants will quickly change over to producing car and truck components.

"The owners of construction and building repair companies will be able to conclude contracts for materials with the producers, or buy them from the 'Phoenix-Resource' Company and the 'Tersnab' Economic Trust. Construction machinery will be mainly sold by auction. Notwithstanding reductions for depreciation, the prices will be determined by the market, under the law of supply and demand."

[Boyadzhieva] Who will set the prices for services, and how will this be done?

[Marinova] The prices will be set by the owner of the company, based on demand and production costs. It will be possible for them to change immediately if the prices of the raw and other materials rise or fall. However, this need not be so. If the owner decides that he can absorb part of the costs at the expense of his profits, he will offer lower prices. This is what competition means. The free setting of prices does not only mean higher or lower prices, but also presupposes saturating the market with varied goods and services. The producers are given complete economic freedom.

[Boyadzhieva] Where lies the greatest need for small workshops?

[Marinova] At ports, airports, in resort complexes and hotels, and small settlements there is always a need for small establishments for express dry cleaning, laundry, and ironing. At the moment, these services are the least available.

The greatest need for car service stations is along the main roads, near gasoline stations, and in large tourist complexes. Over 8,000 jobs can be created in building and repair activities. Contracts may be freely negotiated for the construction of houses, villas, garages, economic structures, and for designing storefronts. People with initiative may also engage in middleman activities, such as negotiating contracts, deliveries, maintenance of materials and machines, and so on.

The economic reform in trade and services provides conditions for everyone who wants to work and earn money to show what they can do and engage in fair competition.

Independent Union Confederation Aims Viewed

AU1304085190 Sofia DUMA in Sofia 11 Apr 90 p 2

[Dora Chichkova report: "Krustyu Petkov Will Not Be A BSP (Bulgarian Socialist Party) Member"]

[Text] "I do not intend to preserve my membership in a party that no longer exists. On the other hand, renewing my membership in another party would represent a political act that I am not prepared to carry out," Krustyu Petkov, Independent Trade Unions Confederation in Bulgaria chairman, declared at a new conference held, on the occasion of a meeting of the Confederation's Coordination Council, in Sofia on 10 April.

The Confederation's new leading body, which is organized "from bottom to top," held its first meeting following the Confederation's constituent congress that took place about two months ago. Meanwhile, the number of trade union federations, unions, and other forms of association reached 46. The number of individual members is expected to increase to 3.5 million in the near future.

Krustyu Petkov contested the statistical data provided by the government about the unemployment rate in our country. According to him, the unemployment figure is twice as high, involving nearly 100,000 people. As a result of the imperfect registration system, the Independent Trade Unions Confederation decided to build up its own parallel system within the next week.

The establishment of 30 trade union centers for the protection of the rights and interests of Confederation members is under preparation at the same time. A trade union fund for social assistance is expected to be established for the purpose of providing social assistance in addition to the already existing social welfare and insurance services provided by the state.

The Confederation further intends to assert the branch and professional principles in its structures, which represents a basically new aspect of its activities. No territorial leadership bodies will exist. All municipal trade union councils are expected to be eliminated by the end of June 1990.

As far as cooperation with the Podkrepa Labor Confederation is concerned, it is not envisioned to sign any

mutual agreements on a nationwide scale whatsoever, the Independent Trade Unions Confederation chairman pointed out. Nevertheless, cooperation between the two trade union organizations on several issues in enterprises and companies is a matter of fact. This is so because, in Krustyu Petkov's opinion, "life is stronger than our controversies."

New Trade Union Established in Gabrovo

AU1204101790 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 10 Apr 90 p 2

[Elena Papanikolau report: "New National Independent Trade Union Established Under the Name of Unity"]

[Text] Freedom of the individual, professional development, improvement of working and recreation conditions: These are only a few of the principles adopted and inscribed in the trade union program of the Unity [Edinstvo] Independent National Trade Union. It will rally manual workers, peasants, white- collar workers, and intellectuals from the national economic sectors. The trade union founders openly express their resolve to play the role of a constructive opposition to all political forces in Bulgaria, without claiming to be a political organization. Unity intends to restore the lost confidence in the role of trade unions as exponents and protectors of the working people's rights.

Union of Economists 'Resurrected'

AU1104222290 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 10 Apr 90 p 2

[Grigor Lilov report: "The Union of Economists Has 'Resurrected'"]

[Text] The Union of Economists in Bulgaria was "resurrected" in Sofia yesterday. It was established in 1968 and "closed down" by the totalitarian regime in 1977. At the constituent assembly, it was decided to restore the organizational statute of the union as a member of the Federation of Scientific-Technical Unions and to register the Union of Economists as a legal body. A statute that should serve as a basis for the establishment of local societies throughout the country and for the organization of a regular congress was also adopted at the meeting.

Commission Deplores Crimes in Prison Camps

AU1204190290 Sofia BTA in English 1730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 12 (BTA)—The Parliamentary Commission on Abuses of Lawfulness was informed about the course of the preliminary investigation of crimes in the camps near Lovech and Scravena. The crimes have been defined as gross violence, arbitrary acts and lawlessness, incompatible with human rights and the principles of humanism. The Chief Prosecutor's Office was laid a claim to speed the course of the investigation and urgently form preliminary proceedings against the other performers of crime in the camps. It was recommended that the Ministry of the Interior, the public and the other competent bodies cooperate energetically with the Military Prosecutor's Office and the investigation. It was decided that the persons who have been interned in the camp, wrongly convicted and repressed without sentence should be proposed for rehabilitation.

In relation with the National Assembly resolutions for political and civic rehabilitation of the unlawfully sentenced and repressed people in the past, the parliamentary commission proposed that these resolutions be supplemented and the time, spent by the repressed persons in prisons and labor camps be acknowledged as length of service.

The parliamentary commission discussed the information about the existing privileges, endorsed by normative acts and resolutions which provide advantages for some citizens and social layers. It was stressed that some of them have currently been replaced, as for instance the privileges about the acquisition and purchase of currency, the acceptance of students at the higher educational establishments, health services for certain categories of persons and their families in the former government hospital, the use of residences and hunting farms some of which had been offered to the disposal health care, about reposal and tourism. Irrespective of the actions which have been undertaken, there are still a number of privileges which are cause of discontent and social tension. The commission proposed to the Council of Ministers to make a check about the kind of privileges which are still existing and to cancel the ones which are regarded as unlawful and socially harmful.

The parliamentary commission was informed about the demand of the initiative committee "The Truth About Slavkov", to terminate the legal proceedings against Slavkov, Todor Zhivkov's son-in-law, or to fully guarantee the impartial and objective process of the preliminary proceedings and the legal investigation. Radian Gichev, Sofia city prosecutor said at the session that the "detention on remand" was replaced by a bail of 1,000 leva and a legal defense was permitted. He also said that the accusation against Ivan Slavkov about unlawful spending of public funds is still sustained. The parliamentary commission entrusted the chief and the Sofia City Prosecutor's Offices with the speeding of the course of the investigation and the undertaking of the necessary actions for providing the complete objectivity of the investigation.

Concentration Camp Commander Pleads Innocent

AU1404155090 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 11 Apr 90 p 2

[Evgeni Gavrilov report: "Gogov: They Were Unprepared For Hard Manual Labor"]

[Text] I have a clean conscience and do not feel any remorse or moral responsibility for what happened, Petur Gogov, the former commander of the concentration camp near Lovech, said at the end of his interview

with the special commission assisting the Lovech camp investigation. The commission was established by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. He claimed that he had simply acted as the technical executor of instructions from the top and that he is ready for confrontation with any of the camp's inmates.

According to Gogov, a former Ministry of Internal Affairs employee, there were several causes for the death of camp inmates. One of the most frequent causes was the fact that many of the inmates, sent by the investigation offices to the camp, came unprepared for the hard-labor conditions.

Asked whether some of the inmates were imprisoned for political reasons, Gogov answered that he did not know anything about political prisoners. The majority of inmates were criminals who had been convicted several times, he said. They gambled a lot and used to steal each other's food, therefore there were so many fights among them. Gogov denied the recent reports in the media that the inmates were fed with meat from pigs that had died of German measles. He insisted that he always tasted the food before it was distributed among the prisoners.

The former commander of the camp near Lovech was unable to answer the question of why the death rate had suddenly increased in 1961. He claims to have been sick in the hospital at that time, and said that after returning to the camp he dismissed Gazdov for having introduced an even stricter regime and for having sent a group of inmates to collect nuts. Petur Gogov admitted that he met Mircho Spasov five to six times. According to his statement, however, their main subject of conversation was the inmates' working clothes and their labor achievements. Gogov claims that he never received any instructions from Spasov. The camp commander said that he used to report every death to Sofia. The death certificates were sent to the respective municipality to notify the relatives of the deceased.

Petur Gogov further reported on his activities as a commander of Project-2 in Belene, and in other labor settlements, insisting that no abuses were committed in any of the places where he worked. The commission also interviewed Delcho Chakurov, former deputy commander of the "Imprisonment and Exile" Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Neno Khristov, who was also employed as a warden in the Lovech camp.

Mass Grave Discovered Near Dobrinishte

AU1404185790 Sofia BTA in English
1710 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 14 (BTA)—The remains of nearly 40 people were dug out of a mass grave discovered yesterday [13 April] near the village of Dobrinishte, southwestern Bulgaria, on the site of one of the hideouts of the first partisan in Bulgaria Ivan Kozarev.

Local people say that the victims are probably some of the residents of the former Razlog district who went missing in October 1944.

Representatives of the district prosecutor's office and of the regional directorate of internal affairs in Blagoevgrad went immediately to the site. The area was placed under guard. A preliminary inquiry has been launched and urgent measures are being taken to solve the case.

Mladenov Greets Patriarch on Easter

AU1404185290 Sofia Domestic Service
in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Easter greetings telegram from President Petur Mladenov to Patriarch Maksim]

[Text] Your Holiness, I send to you, the Holy Synod members, the Orthodox clergy, and my compatriot Orthodox believers, most cordial greetings on the occasion of the glorious Christian festival of Christ's resurrection. I offer to all my wishes for a joyous festival, successful labor, and the church's patriotic service for the sake of our people and for peace and understanding between people.

Easter Celebrated Throughout Country

AU1504163490 Sofia BTA in English
1526 GMT 15 Apr 90

["Easter Regains Public Holiday Status"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 15 (BTA)—Tens of thousands of Sofianites celebrated Easter at midnight last night in the central city square, formally known as "Ninth of September" but called "Democracy" by opposition supporters. People exchanged the traditional Easter greeting, "Christ Is Risen," adding "Bulgaria Will Be Risen, Too". The celebration was organized by the Spasenie (Salvation) Christian Union at the Committee for Protection of Religious Rights, Freedom of Conscience and Spiritual Values, affiliated to the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) [UDF].

The Pascal vigil service at the St Aleksandur Nevski Memorial Cathedral was conducted by His Holiness Patriarch Maksim of Bulgaria and part of it was broadcast live on national television.

As from this year, Easter Sunday is again a public holiday in this country.

The president Mr Petur Mladenov cabled greetings to the Patriarch, and the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] daily DUMA frontpaged the message. The leadership of the ruling party invited its members and supporters to observe the Christian festival, which gave the opposition an occasion to remind the BSP of its long-standing atheistic propaganda.

The APIA News Agency published an "Easter Message From His Majesty The King". The ex-monarch Simeon

II, who lives in Madrid, emphasizes that "our hope in the universal resurrection reinforces our faith in a bright and free future, in a new Bulgaria."

Militia Director Denounces 'Provocations'

AU1204102390 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 10 Apr 90 p 2

[BTA report: "Provocations Against the Militia"]

[Text] We must call attention to the demonstrative and disparaging attitudes of certain citizens toward law-and-order forces in connection with the fulfillment of their official obligations: This statement was made by Militia Director Colonel Khristo Velichkov. He pointed out the existence of direct, although isolated, physical assaults and moral attacks affecting the honor and personalities of militia employees who are on duty at mass political demonstrations.

During a rally of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] that took place on 3 April, several militiamen were subjected to outrageous and provocatory actions by participants in a vigil that was held simultaneously with the BSP rally.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs leadership appeals to all political and social forces for their cooperation and expresses the hope that they will assume specific commitments and actively contribute to the observance of strict public order, to the establishment of a peaceful and pleasant social atmosphere, and to the successful carrying out of the election campaign and the elections in order to guarantee a peaceful transition from totalitarianism to a democratic rule-of-law society.

Internal Ministry Warns About Border Smuggling

AU1304204390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Announcement issued by the Internal Affairs Ministry; date not given]

[Text] The situation at all border checkpoints in our country has been deteriorating in recent months. The increasing tourist flow, especially of citizens from Romania, Poland, and Yugoslavia, and the frequent trips of Bulgarian citizens abroad provoke tension in the work of the customs authorities.

In the last few days, the difficulties in this respect have even increased. As a result of the decision of the Republic of Greece not to receive any tourists (?who are engaging in trade activities), the Romanian citizens who are returning for this reason are unlawfully trying to sell their goods on our territory in a profitable manner. Cases of selling fake gold rings have occurred, robberies and thefts have also taken place, and private automobiles have been stolen. In numerous cases, the individuals in question refused to obey the control forces.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs urgently appeals to the Bulgarian citizens, requesting that they not yield to the temptation of purchasing unchecked goods from foreigners, which, in addition to being an illegal act, also results in direct losses for the Bulgarian citizens.

Economic Delegation's Washington Visit Noted

AU1304204690 Sofia BTA in English 1856 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Washington, April 13 (BTA corr)—The visit to Washington ended of the Bulgarian delegation, headed by Konstantin Glavanakov, deputy-minister of foreign economic relations. The delegation was here at the invitation of the U.S. Minister of Trade for participation in the international conference for business cooperation with the countries from Eastern Europe and the USSR.

The leader of the Bulgarian delegation had fruitful meetings with Mr Richard Leshur, president of the Trade Chamber. Mr Michael Faren deputy minister of trade, Mr Eugene Mccallister assistant secretary of state, as well as with the leaders of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. They exchanged opinions on bilateral relations. Mr Konstantin Glavanakov acquainted his interlocutors with the changes that are underway in Bulgaria and the latest resolutions and laws in the political and economic sphere.

The U.S. side confirmed a readiness to normalize and expand relations and expressed satisfaction with Bulgaria's initiatives to establish contacts with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and to join them duly.

Mr Ivan Dragnevski, chairman of the Bulgarian National Bank was also on a visit to Washington. He met with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Mr Camdessus, the President of the World Bank Mr Conable and the director's councils of the two international organizations. In the core of attention was the further fulfillment of the procedure for Bulgaria's joining the International Monetary Fund and The World Bank.

It was said that next week Bulgaria will be visited by experts from the International Monetary Fund. An agreement was reached to use the experience and possibilities of the two world organizations and render technical assistance in spheres which are priorities for Bulgaria like agriculture, foodstuffs industry and banking. The possibilities were also discussed for Bulgaria's joining of the World Bank financial institutes and particularly of a membership in the International Financial Corporation, specialized in assisting the private sector.

Iranian Deputy Industry Minister Meets Lukanov

AU1304075790 Sofia BTA in English 2059 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 12 (BTA)—Iran has a positive attitude towards the changes in Bulgaria and will make efforts to give help to the best of her powers, said Mr. Safai-Farahani, deputy minister of heavy industry of

Iran, after the meeting he had today with Mr. Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The Iranian guest informed the Bulgarian side about the results of the meetings he had with some Bulgarian ministers, at which agreements were reached on the joint production of digital-program controlled machine-tools and tourist buses. The future of the traditional cooperation in motor trucks building and the production of electric hoists and hoisting and hauling devices was also discussed.

Mr. Safai-Farahani and the 25-member Iranian delegation are leaving the country tomorrow.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

AU1304171890 Sofia BTA in English
1606 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 13 (BTA corr)—The First Deputy Minister of Heavy Industry of Iran Mr Safai-Farahani and leaders of Iranian companies considered with their Bulgarian partners the fulfillment of the protocol for cooperation between Bulgaria and Iran in the sphere of machine building. This document was signed last year.

The possibilities for activation of bilateral relations, for the use of new forms of cooperation as setting up of mixed companies, joint investments and cooperated production were subject of the talks which the guests had with Petur Bashikarov, minister of foreign economci relations and Krustyu Stanilov, minister of industry and technologies. The Iranian businessmen discussed concrete plans with the leaders of the companies ZMM and MASHSTROY in the town of Troyan, ARSENAL in the town of Kazanluk, TEKHNOINVESTt, Balkancar and Podem in Gabrovo, INTRANSMASH in Sofia, etc.

An agreement was signed for joint production of metal cutting machines and tourist buses. Cooperation will develop in the production of systems for the interplant transport and storehouses. Iran will buy from Bulgaria motorcar parts and industrial trucks units. Cars and mini buses will be delivered from Iran to Bulgaria.

France Offers Financial Credits

AU1304184190 Sofia BTA in English
1703 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 13 (BTA)—As it was announced by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, agreements have been signed today in Paris, between the governments of Bulgaria and France, according to which France will grant Bulgaria credits. A short-term credit of 300 million French francs will be granted to be used for purchase from France of consumer goods and industrial raw materials like products from the foodstuffs industry, small tonnage agricultural technology, household electornics, electric household appliances, perfumery, products of the pharmaceutical industry.

A credit of 700 million French francs will also be granted for delivery from France to Bulgaria of complete projects, investment equipment, and other machines and appliances, as well as industrial raw materials.

Number of Citizens Living in USSR Noted

AU1104220390 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 6 Apr 90 p 4

[Unattributed report: "More than 700,000 Bulgarians in USSR"]

[Text] More than 700,000 Bulgarians are now living in the USSR, Ivan Dundarov, a Bulgarian who lives in Besarabia, said at a meeting organized by the faculty and students of the Higher Theater Arts Institute in Sofia.

Ivan Dundarov is a scholar of the fate, culture, and problems of Besarabian Bulgarians. Citing many documents, he explained that the wave of emigration to Besarabia had 10 stages from 1414 until 1881. Now about 300 Bulgarian colonies exist there. The Bulgarians who live in Besarabia would like to see a law of dual citizenship adopted.

Mladenov Receives FRG Bundestag Member

AU1204120590 Sofia BTA in English
1039 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Sofia, April 12 (BTA)—Mr. Petur Mladenov, president of the Republic, today received Mr. Klaus Franke, member of the FRG Bundestag for the Christian Democratic Union.

The guest confirmed his country's readiness to help the democratic renewal of Bulgaria. The establishment of a German-Bulgarian bank for cooperation and development was raised at the meeting.

Mr. Petur Mladenov emphasized that the FRG can be a strong positive factor in Bulgaria's integration with the world economy.

Mr. Aleksandur Popov, chairman of the Bulgarian Republican Party, attended the meeting.

Belchev Holds Economic Meetings in London

AU1204190190 Sofia BTA in English
1744 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Bulgaria, Britain: Discussing Problems"—BTA headline]

[Text] London, April 12 (BTA)—Mr. Belcho Belchev, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of finance, visited Britain to attend the meeting of ministers on the problems of narcotics. During his stay he had a number of meetings with representatives of the British Government and the British business circles.

His meeting with Mr. William Waldegrave, minister of state at the British Foreign Office, is of particular importance. Mr. William Waldegrave expressed his satisfaction with the advancement of the process of democratization in Bulgaria and underlined the British Government's approval of this process. A positive assessment was made of the steps taken to settle the ethnic problem and of the decision of the roundtable to agree on all important economic and political measures to be taken in the country. The two sides discussed the conclusion of an agreement on mutual investments protection. They came to the understanding that an agreement should be reached as to all pending problems and that the agreement itself should be signed the soonest possible.

At the meeting Mr. Belcho Belchev had with Lord Trefgarne, minister of state at the Department of Trade and Industry, the latter expressed hope that after the successful economic session held in Sofia there have already been created concrete forms of cooperation, the extension of which would be to the advantage of both countries.

Minister Belcho Belchev had also a meeting with Mr. Robert Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England. The British financier expressed his wish to contribute, as best as he could, to an early discussion of the problem of Bulgaria's payment balance with the banking circles. At a meeting Mr. Belchev had with Mr. Malcolm Stephens, chief executive of the Export Credits Guarantee Department, the concrete possibilities and the terms under which the British banks and financial institutions would render assistance in discussing Bulgaria's payment balance. Mr. Belchev had a meeting with leaders and leading figures of some of the biggest commercial banks and companies in Britain who were informed in detail about the economic situation in Bulgaria. The representatives of the commercial banks expressed the opinion that it is to the interest of both sides to discuss the problem of Bulgaria's payment balance the earliest possible.

The British side officially expressed its readiness to render political assistance to Bulgaria in the settlement of her financial and economic problems. It was underlined that the political and the economic circles in Britain are willing to promote the two countries' relations. A positive assessment was made of the program of the Bulgarian Government for overcoming the crisis and the measures it makes provision for; it was underlined that these measures should be quickly implemented.

Boyko Dimitrov on Relations With Latin America

AU1204205290 Sofia BTA in English 2031 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Bulgaria and Latin America"—BTA headline]

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (BTA correspondent)—Representatives of the Governments of seven countries in Eastern and Central Europe and delegates of seven Latin American countries united in the Rio Group had a meeting in Budapest today. The Bulgarian delegation was headed by Mr. Boyko Dimitrov, minister of foreign affairs.

"Bulgaria's interest in the promotion of mutually advantageous relations and cooperation with the Latin American countries is based on essential prerequisites of long standing: the similar problems we have got to solve, the rationalization of the realities of present-day world, the similarity of positions on key international problems and last, but not least, the common problem of our foreign debts", Mr. Boyko Dimitrov underlined in his speech. He pointed out that after the change that set in on November 10 1989, an all-embracing irreversible process of democratization of the political and economic life of the country has been under way in Bulgaria. These changes have their impact on its foreign policy, too. Undoubtedly, the priority line in the country's foreign policy is the rapprochement to the European political traditions and the European economy. "But by no means can this priority be considered to run counter to the promotion of our relations with the remaining part of the world. We are pleased to establish that the cooperation between Bulgaria and the countries in Latin America are being built on the basis of good traditions and mutual advantage", the Bulgarian foreign minister stated.

Further on 'Arafat Visit, Meetings With Leaders

Meets With Politicians in Prague

LD1204152290 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1330 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, who arrived in Czechoslovakia on a two-day visit today, met with representatives of our political parties and movements in Prague today. He congratulated them on the victory of democracy in Czechoslovak society and wished them much success in political work. He also briefed them on the principle views of the PLO on solving the Near East crisis and stressed that it cannot be solved by use of arms, but only by a peace agreement. Yasir 'Arafat went on to recall the PLO's extensive international contacts and unequivocally distanced himself from terrorist actions.

Addresses Journalists in Prague

LD1204184790 Prague CTK in English 1504 GMT 12 Apr 90

[text] Prague April 12 (CTK)—"I am happy to be in this friendly country again", visiting President of Palestine and Chairman fo the Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat, told journalists at a press conference here today.

Yasir 'Arafat paid his first visit to Czechoslovakia in 1955 as chairman of the Union of Palestinian Students. Since then he has visited Czechoslovakia several times.

"This nation has always been on the side of a just cause of our people, its right to freedom and democracy", the PLO representative stressed.

Answering the question if he considers Czechoslovakia's effort to solve the Middle East crisis to be beneficial, he said: "why not?" and pointed in this connection to the international model conference on the Middle East which was held in Prague several years ago. "I welcome the participation of President Vaclav Havel and all Czechoslovak people in a process aimed at reaching a just solution to the Middle East conflict", the supreme Palestinian representatives pointed out.

Talks, Gala Dinner With Havel

LD1204185190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] President Vaclav Havel received Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat with military honors at the Lany Chateau [near Prague] this evening. The two statesmen first met for talks. Afterward Vaclav Havel gave a gala dinner in honor of Yasir 'Arafat.

Discusses Mideast Issues With Havel

LD1204214490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] President Vaclav Havel welcomed Yasir 'Arafat, the supreme representative of the State of Palestine, at the Lany Chateau today. As Foreign Ministry spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky said, during the talks which followed, Yasir 'Arafat spoke about the situation in his country and expressed hope that Czechoslovakia will be prepared and capable of contributing toward solving the Middle East problem.

Vaclav Havel stressed that without wishing to be direct participants in this conflict, we strive for a peaceful settlement of the situation in the Middle East. He expressed the conviction that his trip to Israel will make possible a better understanding in the Middle East conflict, and providing that Yasir 'Arafat understands it as a way to improve relations the trip will no doubt be at least a small step toward the peace desired by the Palestinian people.

The two presidents exchanged views regarding the complicated problem of transferring Jews from the USSR. President Vaclav Havel gave a gala dinner in honor of Yasir 'Arafat at which the two statesmen delivered toasts.

Hails Talks With Havel

LD1304145390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1400 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] At a news conference in Prague today [13 April], Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat spoke highly of his talks with President Vaclav Havel, calling them successful, fruitful, and positive. He also noted that Czechoslovakia had a historical, legal, and moral responsibility for the human rights of the Palestinians and Jews because it was one of the 11 states which, in 1947, were in favor of the division of Palestine.

Yasir 'Arafat asked Vaclav Havel to visit occupied Palestinian territory during his visit to Israel so he could see for himself the oppression of the Palestinian people. At the same time, he voiced his appreciation for the promise that Czechoslovakia would continue to grant the Palestinian people humanitarian aid and assistance in the area of education. This afternoon, President 'Arafat arrived in Bratislava from Prague.

Havel, 'Arafat Dinner Toasts

LD1204215190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Vaclav Havel, president of the republic, gave a gala dinner in honor of Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, in Lany [chateau] tonight.

In his toast, he expressed the conviction that the talks between the two statesmen could significantly help toward the success of Vaclav Havel's forthcoming visit

to Israel—as he had an opportunity to have a thorough discussion with Yasir 'Arafat about issues of mutual interst. He stressed once more that the renewal of our relations with Israel in no way means that we intend to reduce the significance of our relations with the Arab countries. On the contrary, we think that we will be able to contribute toward a political dialogue of all the interested parties as the only possible solution to the Middle East crisis. We wish to carry out a well-balanced policy in our relations with all the parties involved in the conflict, said Vaclav Havel. He went on to note that we also wish to continue our humanitarian help to the Palestinian people.

Yasir 'Arafat, in his toast, pointed out the traditions of long- standing friendship between our nations on the path toward a national and humane search for common elements shared by the forces of freedom, peace, and democracy. He spoke in detail about the suffering of the Palestinian people who deserve to be embraced by a wave of feelings of fellowship. Yasir 'Arafat went on to point out the danger of ridding the term human rights of its global and human content. He conveyed the willingness of the state of Palestine to undertake preparatory measures to facilitate an international conference—such as for instance a dialogue between the PLO representatives and the Israeli Government.

More on Dinner Toasts

LD1304202490 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpt] While the television news was in progress yesterday, a dinner was getting under way in Lany, given by President Vaclav Havel in honor of Yasir 'Arafat. Here is an extract we recorded from his toast:

[Begin Havel recording] As you probably know, Czechoslovakia has recently restored diplomatic relations with Israel. The resumption of relations with Israel does not mean in any way that we intend to downdgrade the importance of our relations with the Arab countries. On the contrary, we think that in this way we will be able to contribute to the necessary political dialogue between all the interested parties as the only possible way of resolving the Middle East crisis. [end recording]

Further in his toast, President Vaclav Havel stressed that Czechoslovakia wants to be neither an uncritical ally of any of the parties to the conflict, nor an uninvolved observer of the Middle East situation. President Vaclav Havel stated that Czechoslovakia will continue its humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people, as for example, in the form of study grants or stays for medical treatment. Czechoslovakia is also ready, Vaclav Havel said, to create a favorable climate and scope for talks on peace in that part of the world.

In reply, Yasir 'Arafat gave thanks for the welcome accorded to him in Czechoslovakia. The Palestinian president said that a suitable framework for resolving the Middle East conflict has to be an international conference capable of providing guarantees to all the parties involved. In this context, Yasir 'Arafat stated, among other things, his readiness to hold a dialogue between representatives of the PLO and the Israeli Government. [passage omitted]

Further on 'Arafat Statements at Dinner

LD1204225690 Prague CTK in English 2118 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 12 (CTK)—"Sincerity is a key friendship—this both yours and our slogan. Therefore we have expressed at the very beginning our deep respect to what the Czechoslovak people have chosen, for their creative way in forming the decisive moments of their modern history and their specific historic experience", supreme Palestinian representative Yasir 'Arafat stressed at the dinner at Lany Castle near Prague tonight.

"Our world is heading towards understanding, peace, cooperation and global peace which requires removal of hotbeds of tension, expansionism and aggression", he said and pointed to the hotbed of tension in the Middle East resuting from the denial of Israeli leading representatives of the rights of the Palestinian people.

"We are against the right of Soviet jews to emigration only if it is at variance with the internationally recognized rights of our nation...the aim of Israeli representatives and of those who support them is to create a new status quo in the occupied Arab territories...the settlement of the emigrants in the occupied territories is a violation of No. 4 Helsinki agreement and U.N. resolutions on the Palestinian issue", he stressed.

"We welcome any effort you exert to prevent the explosion of a volcano in the Middle East in harmony with your initiative aimed at strengthening the security of the European home connected with security and peace in the Middle East", Yasir 'Arafat underlined.

Havel Dinner Speech

LD1204230290 Prague CTK in English 2125 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Prague Prague 12 (CTK)—"I am convinced that our talks can significantly contribute to a success of my upcoming visit to Israel", Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel stressed at the dinner given to honour Yasir 'Arafat at Lany Castle near here tonight.

"The resumption of relations with Israel does in no way mean that we intend to reduce the significance of our relations with the Arab countries. On the contrary, we are of the opinion that we will be able to contribute to an inevitable political dialogue of all sides involved, the only possible solution to the Middle East crisis", Vaclav Havel said and continued: "We want to pursue a balanced policy in the relation to all sides involved in the conflict. We strive for its political settlement respecting both the right of the Palestinians to self-determination

and the right of Israel to a peaceful and secure development. We shall also support all just demands of the nations living in this region. We shall protest against violation of human rights in the occupied territories...I have been always condemning violent changes in the demographic composition of the population anywhere, i.e. also on the west bank of the Jordan".

"We want to continue humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people both in the form of granting scholarships or medical treatment...at the end of January I mentioned our preparedness to create favourable climate and space for negotiations about peace in this part of the world. We do not claim to play the role of a mediator or to be a direct participant in the discussions. We understand our offer as a service to a good cause", Vaclav Havel underlined.

'Arafat Calls Havel Mediation Offer 'Useful'

LD1204214990 Prague Television Service in Czech 2000 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Yasir 'Arafat, the president of the Palestinian state, began an official visit to Czechoslovakia today [12 April], which he is making at the invitation of the Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel.

Shortly after his arrival by air, Yasir 'Arafat gave an interview to Czechoslovak Television. Asked what he expected from his meeting with Czechoslovak officials, he replied that above all he considered it his duty to visit Czechoslovakia now that it had embarked on the path toward democracy and plurality. He spoke highly of the November events in Czechoslovakia, and compared them to the uprising by Palestinian youth in the occupied territories. He pointed out that there is internal democracy and pluralism in the PLO, too. He added that he wants to reaffirm to Czechoslovak officials his hopes that just as in the past, the Czechoslovak people will stand side by side with the Palestinians.

Asked whether after the talks he has had in the last few days with statesmen from Western Europe and North America he still considers it topical for the Czechoslovak state to play a mediating role in settling the Palestinian question, he said that he still considers President Havel's offer useful and valuable, because it was an expression of friendship and of the wish to contribute to a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. He said that he welcomes the involvement of the Czechoslovak president and the Czech and Slovak people in this endeavor. [passage omitted]

Arrives in Bratislava

LD1304134690 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1300 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, president of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Bratislava this afternoon. Meeting him at the airport were Rudolf Schuster, chairman of the Slovak National Council, and Roman Hoffbauer, mayor of Bratislava. Then the convoy left for Bratislava Castle.

Holds Talks With Schuster

LD1304164790 Prague CTK in English 1450 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava March 13 (CTK)—Palestinian President and chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat was received here today by chairman of the Slovak National Council Rudolf Schuster.

The Slovak representative informed Yasir 'Arafat of the sociopolitical changes which have taken place since his latest visit to Bratislava on October 19, 1989. Yasir 'Arafat appreciated the peaceful course of the revolution in Czechoslovakia and expressed the hope that the nations of Czechoslovakia will grant support and assistance to the struggle of the Palestinian people.

They also discussed deepening and intensification of relations between the two countries.

Meets Slovak Representatives

LD1304203990 Prague CTK in English 1847 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava April 13 (CTK)—In the framework of his visit to Czechoslovakia Palestinian President and chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat met here today with representatives of the Slovak political parties.

The supreme Palestinian representative was welcomed by chairman of the Association of Political Parties and Social Organisations of the Slovak Republic Anton Tazky who stressed that Yasir 'Arafat is a great personality for the Czechoslovak people and that his namne is connected with the struggle for the liberation of Palestine.

The Palestine president appreciated Czechoslovakia's interest in the Middle East development.

Comments on Talks, Visit

LD1304173990 Prague CTK in English 1605 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 13 (CTK)—"From the point of view of Czechoslovak foreign policy, Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's visit to this country marks a start of our new foreign policy towards the Arab world," Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky stressed at a press conference here today.

He said that the forthcoming visit to Israel of Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel, due to take place April 25-27, and the present visit to Czechoslovakia of Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat should create a favourable political climate for talks between Israel and Palestine.

As for using Prague as a transfer point for Jews leaving the USSR, Lubos Dobrovsky said that it would be possible only if the Jewish emigrants are free to choose their destination, are provided with passports and money and have the possibility to return.

"It is important for us to have security certainties, too," the spokesman said, adding that at present there are still many reasons why Czechoslovak police can guarantee, in this respect, neither security of the Jewish emigrants, nor of Czechoslovak citizens.

Asked by CTK how Czechoslovakia could contribute to the solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Yasir 'Arafat responded that his talks with Vaclav Havel were successful, fruitful and positive. By his prestige and position, the Czechoslovak president can play an active role in the restoration of peace in the Middle East, he said.

The Palestinian leader pointed out the balanced contacts of the Czechoslovak president both with Palestinian and Israeli sides and referred also to Vaclav Havel's firm principles and his good will to encourage the dialogue.

Czechoslovakia was one of the eleven countries to vote for the division of Palestine in the U.N., Yasir 'Arafat stressed and said that Vaclav Havel assured him that the U.S. State Secretary Baker's plan for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue is a preparatory step for convening a peace conference under the auspices of the U.N. and attended by the permanent members of the U.N.'s security council and by all sides involved, including the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO).

Yasir 'Arafat said he suggested to Vaclav Havel to visit the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel, to see the oppression of the Palestinian people.

He added that the PLO does not receive any financial help from Eastern Europe but it is given humanitarian assistance and scholarships, and some European countries offer the opportunity to study at military schools.

The SWAPO (South-West Africa People's Organization) has received a similar offer, too, as well as the ANC (African National Congress) and other national liberation organizations, Yasir 'Arafat said.

In a month an Arab summit should take place, the Palestinian supreme representative stated and affirmed that it was the PLO who called for its convocation.

Interviewed on Soviet Jews

LD1304225490 Prague Television Service in Slovak 2000 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, ended his visit to Czechoslovakia after staying in Bratislava. Before his departure he met with journalists and answered questions by a Czechoslovak television correspondent.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] The countries in East Europe gained freedom and democracy through peaceful revolutions. Isn't this also a suitable model for Palestine?

['Arafat, in Arabic with superimposed Slovak translation] You must not forget that the participants in the uprisings in the countries of East Europe showed a V sign for Victory. This is also the Palestine people's sign. The uprising, the intifadah, continues in our occupied territories, and the fact that it brought freedom and democracy to your country gives us hope.

[Correspondent] You more than once described a mass emigration by Soviet Jews as part of the efforts to establish greater Israel. Do you have any other proposal for a way to tackle the problem of the Soviet Jews?

['Arafat] Yes: a free choice. When two years ago the Jews used to arrive first to Vienna, and then had an opportunity to choose where to leave for from there, 90 percent of them left for other countries, and only 10 percent left for Israel. Nowadays they are being forced to go to Israel, and this only because they are Jews. This is not an emigration any longer; it is a forced displacement, contrary to human rights.

Every Soviet Jew should have a passport and the right to go wherever he wants. What is also inevitable is that he should have a guaranteed right to return to the Soviet Union.

At the same time, it is unthinkable that Soviet Jews should live on foreign territory. East Jerusalem is an occupied territory and cannot be settled by Soviet Jews.

The International Organization for Refugees should enable them to choose the place where they want to go. I am asking why the UN International Committee for Refugees is not involved with these people's fate? [end recording]

Briefs Newsmen, Departs

LD1304191690 Prague CTK in English 1750 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava April 13 CTK—After the meeting with representatives of political parties, Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat met with journalists.

He spoke about his visit to Czechoslovakia, the Middle East problems and expressed the hope that the spirit of democracy and freedom in Central Europe will certainly spread also to other parts of the world. He suggested that the Middle East problem can be solved by negotiations of the countries involved without the participation of superpowers.

Palestinian President and Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat left here for home today.

Foreign Ministry on Lithuania Trade Halt Results

LD1404104190 Prague CTK in English 0933 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 14 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky today expressed the hope that the Soviet and Lithuanian sides will seek new ways towards dialogue of equal partners.

In a statement concerning yesterday's letter of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov to the Lithuanian leadership threatening to impose economic sanctions on Lithuania if the republic refused to rescind its declaration of independence within two days, the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry expressed the fear of possible consequences of using economic pressure aimed at reaching concessions from demands to national self-determination and the right to sovereign state.

Such pressure is at variance with the generally valid norms of ethical and democratic politics. Economic and power pressure can unfavourably influence relations between states and thus reduce the hope for a calm, prudent and democratic solution to many European questions.

Further on Soviet Troop Withdrawal

LD1304121390 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0900 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] More Soviet units set off today for the transloading point in Cierna pri Cope. Premysl Sramek sent in this telephone dispatch:

[Begin Sramek recording, in Czech] Today, Friday, 13 April, is a lucky day for the inhabitants of Cervena Voda in Usti nad Orlici District. The last train carrying equipment and approximately 500 Soviet Army soldiers is leaving Kraliky railway station today. They are vacating more than 70 apartments, which will enable the Cervena Voda National Committee to resolve the housing problem in that town. Other facilities will serve as warehouses for various enterprises and organizations.

Contrary to this, in Klasterec nad Orlici, which is not far from here, the withdrawal of Soviet troops has been postponed. However, busy preparations are under way there, too. Soldiers are liquidating various building extensions and warehouses. After 22 years, they also liquidated a large fuel storage. [end recording]

Withdrawal Proceeds in 'Tense Situation'

LD1404095590 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0900 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] The withdrawal of Soviet units from Czechoslovaia is proceeding according to schedule, despite the extensive nature of the entire operation. By 31 March, 62 trains arrived in the USSR, as well as 19 automobile convoys with 6,370 soldiers and 280 tanks. This was said in an interview for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA by Colonel General Eduard Vorobyev, commaner in chief of the Central Group of Soviet Troops. He goes on to note that the withdrawal is taking place in a tense situation where many meetings and assemblies are being held. He also accused the communications media of contributing a great deal toward this situation. In his words, it is almost sad that the Czechoslovak Army press has joined in this wave.

Troop Withdrawal Begins in Ceska Trebova

LD1504184590 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] The withdrawal of Soviet troops began today from Ceska Trebova. The unit will leave the town by the end of the week. Fourteen trains will be needed to transport technology and personnel. Toward the end of April, Soviet soldiers will also begin leaving Klasterec nad Orlici.

News Conference on Security Commission Proposal

AU1104222390 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 7 Apr 90 pp 1,2

["(JI)"-signed report: "An Important Initiative"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] At yesterday's news conference held on the second floor of the Czernin Palace, Zdenek Matejka, CSFR deputy foreign minister, Lubos Dobrovsky, Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman, and Svatopluk Rychlovsky, director of the CSCE and Warsaw Pact section at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, replied to journalists' questions concerning the Memorandum on the European Security Commission. At the beginning, Lubos Dobrovsky said that—in Czechoslovakia's opinion—the bipolar system in Europe has become outdated and it is necessary to replace it with a system of collective security. The Czechoslovak initiative will create an institutional structure for the Helsinki process alongside the continued existence of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. These pacts will not disappear immediately and can play a positive role in disarmament negotiations. However, if the system proposed by Czechoslovakia has positive results, then, it will certainly prove in the end that both pacts are superfluous.

In reply to a question asked by LIDOVE NOVINY on whether President Vaclav Havel and Jiri Dienstbier, our foreign minister, discussed this topic during their recent visits to Western Europe and how our initiative had been received, Lubos Dobrovsky said that our plan had met with a very favorable response and sympathy in France in particular. The reception of Czechoslovakia's propositions in Great Britain had been somewhat cooler as Margaret Thatcher's government accentuated the significance of NATO more. Despite this, the British side is studying the Czechoslovak proposal carefully. As far as Czechoslovakia's partners in the Warsaw Pact are concerned, our proposal met with the greatest support in

Budapest and was most coolly received in the Soviet Union, even though Moscow did not adopt a negative stance toward it. Eduard Shevardnadze said in Prague on 17 March that the proposal is stimulating and interesting and that it is necessary to study it. On 30 April Jiri Dienstbier should meet with the 34 ambassadors from the CSCE countries and hear their points of view on and suggestions about the memorandum.

Havel Sends Letter to Bush, Gorbachev

LD1404212990 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 2100 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] President Vaclav Havel has sent a letter to the presidents of the United States and the Soviet Union, George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev. In it he expresses his pleasure that the date for their forthcoming working meeting has been set and the hope that the talks will be successful. At the same time he recalls his suggestion that the next summit, which could possibly be held as early as in the autumn, could take place in Czechoslovakia. Vaclav Havel expressed the view that a complex of buildings in the middle of the Slovak mountains would be exceptionally suitable for such a meeting. He asked both presidents if they still favorably view his offer to send experts to investigate this complex.

Vaclav Havel emphasized that our country would be greatly honored if it could provide optimal conditions for George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev to hold a peaceful debate about the most pressing problems of the current world and a better future for it.

Havel on Forthcoming Visit to Israel

LD1504140690

[Editorial Report] Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1210 GMT on 15 April carries a 24-minute "regular Sunday interview" with President Vaclav Havel. Editor (Nut) begins by asking if the character of the office of Czechoslovak president has changed since Havel's election.

Havel speaks about the changes in the character of the office of president since Masaryk's time, about increasing presidential powers in the 1945-1948 period, and about the degeneration of the office of president under the communist regime, when it became just a ceremonial post for a party leader. Paradoxically, the Constitution at that time gave more powers to the president than ever before, but the state was in practice ruled by the party. Havel thinks that the new constitution should reduce these presidential powers again.

Nevertheless, for the time being, his influence is rather great and Havel, well aware of this, tries hard not to exercise it too much. In fact, he thinks it is probably a mistake not to use it more, for instance regarding the issue of our republic's new name. Asked about recent performances of his plays, Havel briefly speaks about these. Answering a question about changes in his behaviour since his election, Havel admits he is now more careful what he says.

Havel recalls 'Arafat's visit to Lany and links it to his forthcoming trip to Israel, perhaps with a stopover in Cairo on the way back. Havel expresses his concern for a peaceful settlement and his wish to contribute toward the beginning of a dialogue, probably based on Baker's five-point plan. Havel points out he will speak there at the first congress of Jews of Czech and Slovak origin, who are now living all over the world. In this context, Havel announces that he ordered the Czechoslovak Army to provide two planes to carry free of charge about 450 Jews from Czechoslovak to Israel during Havel's trip there.

Asked about the forthcoming visit of the Pope to Czechoslovakia, Havel points out the importance of the visit's timing, as a reminder of higher universal values before the election fight in Czechoslovakia. He notes the participation of many Czechoslovak believers in the gentle revolution, and recalls the sanctification of St. Agnes Premyslovna just before the decisive Letna rally in Prague. Havel recalls a secret Easter Mass he heard in prison and expresses hope that the nation's sacrifices will turn out to be meaningful.

Mohorita: CPCZ Should Not Be Banned

LD1304135690 Prague CTK in English 1211 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 13 (CTK)—In an interview for today's RUDE PRAVO, Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] First Secretary Vasil Mohorita said he did not believe and did not want to believe that a situation might occur when the hardest sanctions would be applied against the Communist Party including its ban.

He stated he thought "to ban the Communist Party was one thing and to forbid people to believe what they believe and to strive for what they want to strive was another thing. I think time is not convenient for underground policy. If I sent someone 'underground' by banning his political activities I worsen not only his but also my own position. Yet recently many Communists thought that the system of repressions would subdue the opposition," Mohorita said, adding that the results of this are well known. "Political opponents, their parties and representatives can be outlawed or even imprisoned but generations of leaders have already drawn a lesson on the deceitfulness of this method in history," the Communist Party first secretary emphasized.

He concluded that those who want to make decisions in society once and for ever pose the greatest danger in politics.

Civic Forum's Hromadko 'Scandal' Outlined

AU1104135190 Prague PRACE in Czech 5 Apr 90 p 2

["(r)"-signed report: "A Scandal Named Hromadko"]

[Text] Prague—Yesterday, when reading a CTK telex, we were very surprised over and over again. It all started at 1000. During our routine service, we received a lengthy CTK report entitled "Who was the 'Jerab' unit commander?"

The substance of the report provided information that Oldrich Hromadko, Civic Forum's Nationwide Coordination Center Military and Security Commission chairman, had been appointed by an Interior Ministry decree as the commander of the "Jerab" unit in February 1949. This unit was entrusted with carrying out special tasks; specifically, to search for prisoners trying to escape from the camps established in this region for the so-called enemies of the republic. Further, the CTK report provided detailed information about a letter which Captain Hromadko (his former rank in his post as commander) had sent on 12 September 1950 to the Interior Ministry. In this letter, Hromadko explained the circumstances under which he had used a firearm against one of the prisoners (the prisoner had been shot dead).

At around 1445, CTK asked us—as well as other CTK consumers—to kill the item. In view of our friendly relations we would have done so because the request had said, among other things, that the whole affair was under investigation by the prosecutor.... Half an hour later we received through this agency a Civic Forum Coordinating Center communication that Dr. Engineer Oldrich Hromadko has its full confidence. At the same time, it was confirmed that the above-named person really had been the "Jerab" unit commander and that he really had sent a report to his superiors about using a firearm against two prisoners who had been shot when trying to escape in 1950. On the other hand, it stated that similar accusations against Oldrich Hromadko had already been brought after August 1968, when he was an operational staff commander in Josef Pavel's Interior Ministry. He and Pavel had to resign from the ministry under pressure from Soviet officials.

What do we have to say to this? It should be enough to say that the roundtable agreements on the establishment of the Government of National Understanding, agreements concluded after 17 November last year, are "evaporating". The election campaign has begun in the most disgusting way—by airing dirty linen. One can only ask, who is bringing this dirty linen to light when the State Security's safes are, allegedly, sealed with seven seals...?

In the early evening, CTK issued a report that Oldrich Hromadko had lodged a complaint at the Prosecutor General's Office against an unknown offender for false accusation and slander.

Charges Against Ex-Minister Lorenc Specified

AU1104185990 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 6 Apr 90 p 1

["Mly + JaD"-signed report: "Statement by the Military Prosecutor's Office; Three More Members of the State Security Taken Into Custody"]

[Text] On Tuesday [3 April], Interior Minister Sacher informed the public that a criminal prosecution was initiated in the case of former Lieutenant General of the National Security Corps Lorenc [also a former deputy minister of interior], who has been arrested. The main military prosecutor's office could only respond to our questions as to what crimes the former general is accused of and what the reasons for his detention are with the following:

The criminal prosecution against Eng. Alojz Lorenc, candidate of sciences, former lieutenant general of the National Security Corps, was initiated on 3 April 1990 for crimes of abusing the authority with which he was entrusted as a public official according to Article 158, Section 1, Letters (a) and (c) of the Penal Code. Having completed the interrogation, the senior prosecutor of the Higher Military Prosecutor's Office in Pribram decided to put the accused in custody according to Article 68 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, since reasons were established according to Article 67, Letter (b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The circumstances of the criminal activity are being investigated urgently and with the utmost effort.

Regarding another question we raised, namely, whether after Lieutenant Zifcak and Lieutenant General Lorenc were taken into custody prosecution was initiated against other persons, we learned that three other former members of the Security Service were taken into custody.

Meanwhile, the facts of the crimes of which the former Lieutenant General is accused remain obscure. Since his powers as the deputy minister of interior were substantial, the outcome of the investigation will certainly be interesting. Perhaps Mr. Kincl, the former minister of interior, would also know about the activities of his direct subordinate, but the lack of attention given to this gentleman is remarkable. This omission is reminiscent of the scant consideration given until very recently to the activities of Mr. Lorenc.

Reasons for Reichel's Dismissal Unknown

AU1204110190 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 10 Apr 90 p 2

["(GE)"-signed report: "A Dismissal With Question Marks"]

[Text] In our country it is not at all usual to hold a meeting at a news conference with a dismissed federal government deputy premier. Engineer Dr. Frantisek Reichel, who had also been entrusted with overseeing the State Commission for Scientific- Technical and Investment Development, explained to journalists what he tried to do in his work; what, in his opinion, was successful, and what, on the contrary, was not. Apropos his dismissal, which he found out about last Wednesday [4 April] from Premier Calfa, he said that the real reason is unknown to him. He spoke in more detail about some specialist, and also political, reasons which could have been the cause. He expressed his regret that he had to

leave his work unfinished because he had hoped that he would remain in his post until 15 June, that is, until the election results are known.

As far as his future plans are concerned, he stated that the next three months are free and that he has resolved to use them for further study or, if possible, for traveling. His main interests have always been, on the one hand, science and, on the other hand, ecclesiastical life; he plans to devote himself to these spheres in the future. The question asked by the journalists as to whether the dismissal of the Czechoslovak People's Party representative from the federal government is a violation of the roundtable agreement has remained unanswered. Therefore, we turned with this question to the Czechoslovak People's Party Central Committee, where we were informed that during the course of this week another representative of their party will be appointed to the federal government.

Charter 77 Spokesman's Home Reportedly Bugged

LD1304111690 Prague CTK in English 0940 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 13 (CTK)—Stanislav Devaty, who was one of the Charter 77 spokesmen, has found a new bugging device in his flat several days ago and has sent a letter to Czechoslovak Interior Minister Dr Richard Sacher, according to a report in the Socialist Party newspaper SVOBODNE SLOVO today.

Charter 77 was founded in Czechoslovakia as a movement of human rights campaigners in January 1977 and its spokesmen and supporters were persecuted and some of them, including Stanislav Devaty, also imprisoned by the former Czechoslovak regime.

Devaty told the paper that one bugging device he had found earlier had been rendered ineffective by his neighbour. Several days ago Devaty had found a microphone with a new cable leading to it and wondered to whom to return the microphone when the State Security no longer exists.

This is the second case this week of a bugging device being uncovered. Two days ago a bugging device was dismantled in the flat of Jan Urban, a representative of the Civic Forum Coordinating Centre.

Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Interviewed

PM1104100490 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 9 Apr 90 (Section 2) pp 1, 4

[Report on interview with Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Zdenek Cerveny by Lise Tajik; place and date not given: "Companies for Sale in Czechoslovakia"]

[Text] Brno—While the population of Czechoslovakia feels unsure about the future and has woken with a hangover after the revolution, there is optimism among government members about the coming economic reforms.

One of the most confident is Deputy Foreign Trade Minster Zdenek Cerveny. He revealed to BERLINGSKE TIDENDE some of the contents of the new economic laws which are expected to be adopted within the next couple of weeks.

"The aim is to change the economy into a market economy. But the final solution will perhaps be a version specially adapted to Czechoslovakia and not necessarily an exact copy of a Western market economy," Zdenek Cerveny said, admitting that this will be an extremely difficult process.

Zdenek Cerveny stressed that Czechoslovakia wants neither gifts nor loans from abroad, but direct investments in production.

"The new laws open the way for foreigners to enter into all forms of cooperation with Czechoslovak enterprises.

"It will be possible to buy into or take over an enterprise, build a factory, or establish a 100 percent foreign-owned public stock company, which will, however, be subject to Czechoslovak laws. There will be a number of incentives for foreign companies, including tax concessions.

"Our biggest problem will be getting rid of the production monopoly and altering the structure of the old economic plan system so that more producers can enter the market.

"But this must happen without lighting the fuse of inflation and unemployment.

"Another important problem is the remittance of profits from foreign-owned companies, but this will of course be solved the moment our currency becomes convertible," Zdenek Cerveny said.

Czechoslovaks Will Change 2,000 Laws

The Czechoslovak Government is on the verge of amending 2,000 laws. Some will be altered, and follow-up laws will be drafted, while others will be repealed. A large number of the laws cover the economy and industrial and commercial life.

"But there are several positive factors which will help Czechoslovakia in the transitional period," Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Zdenek Cerveny said.

These include a well-balanced home market, based on light industry and agriculture, and there is no shortage of goods in the stores.

"We have told people that if they work harder they can earn more. But that form of social contract loses its meaning if there is a shortage of goods," Cerveny said.

He also pointed out that Czechoslovakia has a good balance of payments with the rest of the world. Czechoslovakia has debts with the West of $9-10 million, but is owed a similar amount by developing nations and other socialist countries.

"But it is of course a question of how to bring this money home," Cerveny admitted.

The government is working around the clock and knows that the people are demanding rapid changes—but without the country's being exposed to an economic shock.

"It remains uncertain how the coming privatizations of state-owned enterprises will take place. But there will not be any spontaneous privatizations, as in Hungary, for example," Cerveny said. "You cannot behave as if you have a market economy if you do not have one," he said.

Instead, the government will study carefully how other countries, such as Britain and Austria, have carried through their privatizations, and the Czechoslovak system will probably be a mixture of the various systems, Zdenek Cerveny said.

Latest Unemployment Figures Published

AU1204172690

[Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO and Prague PRACE in Czech on 9 April both publish reports on a news conference with Petr Miller, minister of labor and social affairs, and other officials of his ministry in Prague on 9 April.

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 10 April on page 1 carries a 500- word "tom"-signed report on the news conference entitled "Labor Exchanges on the Horizon." The RUDE PRAVO report quotes Milan Horalek, deputy minister of labor and social affairs, as having told the news conference that "on 31 March this year, 6,311 unplaced (neumisteny) citizens were registered in the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, 2,000 of whom were receiving the so-called material security benefit. On the other hand, 100,000 jobs were reported as vacant." According to the RUDE PRAVO report, Horalek added, however, that he believes that "the records for both (people seeking a job and reported job vacancies) are poorly kept."

Moving to another subject discussed at the news conference, the RUDE PRAVO report says: "The ministry's officials reported that, recently, they have been literally inundated with requests for transfer from the first to the second category of jobs. Meeting these demands, which concern about 4 million people, would involve extra billions of expenditures from state coffers. This is why the Federal Government imposed a moratorium on awarding new pension insurance preferences until a new social security system is introduced."

Prague PRACE in Czech on 10 April on pages 1 and 2 carries a 1,200-word Jaroslava Treglova, Martin Repik report on the news conference entitled "Motto: Social Justice." According to the PRACE report, Miller commented, among other things, on the need to "regulate wages." He reportedly said that, within the framework of the government's anti-inflationary policies, only employees of the health and education sectors will be awarded wage increases this year; these will cost the state 900 million korunas. According to the report, the PRACE correspondents inquired about Miller's response to the demands of other professional groups, such as those raised by miners during their demonstration in Prague on 2 April: "The minister started his reply by saying that for a moment it seemed that the demonstrators would demolish the 'Budovatel' hotel (where a commission examining their demands was meeting at the time). He continued: 'I really do not know why they were not using such means to push through their demands, for instance, six months ago; why they demand this of the government of national understanding; and why they do so at the expense of others. Representatives of uranium mines, for example, claim that no one in this state is more needed than they are. I think that the trade unions should come to an agreement on this at some higher trade union level. I proposed that they agree within the confederations on who really is the most needed one because, self-evidently, there will be no funds left for the others. I even proposed—because, as is known, [Finance] Minister Klaus will not make available any extra money from the budget—that the problem be solved by means of so-called workers' solidarity, which is rather common in the world. Let workers devote, let us say, one percent of their wages to help solve the most urgent problems of miners. Another possibility would be to raise the price of coal and allocate the proceeds to the same purpose. At any rate, the matter should be settled by an agreement and not by the he-who-shouts-the loudest-gets-it method. We have declared once and for all that the government will not accept such conduct. I am saying this frankly for the next time and for everyone to realize this.'"

The other portions of the PRACE report on the news conference deal with planned increases in old-age pensions and maternity and family allowances to compensate for the upcoming price increases and with the ministry's preparations for the founding of "labor exchanges." These portions of the report do not add any information to previously filed items on these subject matters.

Proceedings Against 1968 Instigators Begin

AU1104104590 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 7 Apr 90 p 1

["(MLY)" and "(JAD)"-signed report: "Criminal Proceedings"]

[Text] On 6 April 1990, the Czechoslovak Federative Republic Prosecutor General's Office initiated criminal proceedings related to the preparation and implementation of the invasion of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic by five Warsaw Pact states on 21 August 1968. We asked Pavel Rychetsky, Czech Republic Prosecutor General, what the grounds are for these proceedings. The prosecutor general replied: "At the Prosecutor General's Offices we have already been discussing for several

weeks the problems surrounding criminal proceedings against those responsible for the military occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968 and subsequent years and also for the normalization policy. We came to the conclusion that an act constituting the criminal offense of high treason had been committed. In view of the statute of limitations, the perpetrators' criminal responsibility for this act has lapsed. At the same time, we had to take into account that what happened was, in fact, the forced military occupation of a sovereign country by five Warsaw Pact countries. Inciting such a criminal act must be qualified in accordance with the law on protecting the peace. According to Paragraph 1 of the aforementioned law, an offender who has attempted to disrupt peaceful coexistence among nations by inciting war, by no matter what kind of means, is criminally responsible; this responsibility cannot be affected by the statute of limitations.

"I feel it necessary to emphasize that it would be illogical for those citizens who carried out the normalization policy—albeit at the lowest level—to be punished—and rightly so—whereas those citizens who initiated this policy by participating in the military occupation of our country should go entirely unpunished. The Federal Prosecutor General's Office has asked the Prosecutor General's Offices of all the countries which participated in the invasion to surrender the letter mentioned in the USSR daily PRAVDA of 22 August 1968 and which is cited in particular in the declarations signed by the Councils of Ministers of the Bulgarian People's Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the GDR, and the USSR regarding the occupation of Czechoslovakia."

Calfa Addresses First Electoral Commission Session

LD1204205990 Prague CTK in English 1412 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 12 (CTK)—The first session of the Central Electoral Commission for the June elections to the Federal Assembly took place here today.

The various political parties, movements and coalitions delegated their representatives at the session, in accordance with the electoral law, even though not all political forces participating in the elections made use of their rights. The commission will make sure that legal electoral rules are upheld, sort out complaints about the policy of the regional electoral commissions and appeals against their decisions, secure and publish election results.

The session was opened by Federal Premier Marian Calfa, who recalled that the elections to the Federal Assembly and the national councils will undoubtedly be the main event of the year and will also be of international significance. Their democratic course should raise the prestige of Czechoslovakia not only in Europe but the world as well.

The elections are the embodiment of a plural democratic system. They are the expression of the free rise and activity of political parties and movements representing the political forces of society. While the principles of the federative state are respected, democratic principles should be realized in elections by taking place on the basis of universal, equal and direct electoral law by secret balot. This enables the voter not only to choose between parties and movements, but to have the choice of those candidates he gives preference to from electoral lists, said the premier.

Marian Calfa also stated he was personally convinced that representative bodies would arise from the elections, not only bearing the trust of the people, but possessing enough power to fulfil historic roles in strengthening democracy.

The Electoral Law states that the chairman and deputy chairman should be drawn by lot. Out of the 42 members present Dr. Zdenek Zahorsky (Freedom Block) was selected chairman and Jan Kozlik (Movement for Civic Freedom) became deputy chairman.

Afterwards the session continued behind closed doors.

27 Parties Preparing for Assembly Elections

LD1204223290 Prague CTK in English 1800 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 12 (CTK)—A total of 27 political parties and movements will run for the elections to the Federal Assembly and the Czech and Slovak National Councils in Czechoslovakia on June 8- 9. This was announced at a press conference here today.

The participating journalists were assured of the impossibility to manipulate the results of the elections. The whole process will be controlled by scrutineers among whom all parties will be represented. To prevent all possible disputes, documents will be filed in archives for six months.

17 political parties are registered in the Czech Republic and 19 in the Slovak Republic. Final results of the elections will be announced on Sunday, June 19, in the evening. Results of preferential voting will be announced on Wednesday, June 13.

According to the latest public opinion poll carreid out in March, 87.8 respondents want to take part in the elections, 20.9 per cent would vote for the Civic Forum, 11.4 for the Communists, 10.4 for the Greens Party, 6 per cent for the Czechoslovak Socialist Party 10 per cent for the Czechoslovak People's Party, 4.9 for Czechoslovak Social Democracy, 4.1 for the Czechoslovak Agrarian Party, 23.8 per cent did not know for whom they are going to vote.

The poll showed that the public opinion in Czechoslovakia has been durably shifting to the right. In January this year 11.6 per cent of respondents were expressively and 28 per cent partially for socialism. Only 8.9 and 19

per cent of citizens had the same opinion in March. 15.5 per cent were partially and 19.8 completely against socialism in March (against the 14.7 and 11.4 per cent in January).

Latest Opinion Poll on Party Preferences

AU1304132290 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech
10 Apr 90 p 1

["bau"-signed report: "Whose Chances Are Better"]

[Text] We are used to hear about the Research Institute of Commerce in a different context, yet with the upcoming elections this institute decided to use a part of its capacities for conducting an opinion poll on the elections and on the current political situation in our country. According to the published poll on citizens' attitudes, if elections were held tomorrow, the Civic Forum would have the greatest chances of winning, since 14.4 percent of those who were questioned would vote for it. This represents an increase, compared to similar polls conducted in January, by 0.1 percent. Quite surprisingly, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia—with the largest increase (2.6 percent) since January—occupies the second place. This party would win 11.1 percent of the votes. Next comes the Green Party with 9.6 percent, followed by the Czechoslovak People's Party. The following parties have almost identical support: Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, and Czechoslovak Agricultural Party—4.2 percent each. Compared to January figures, the greatest increase was recorded by the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party—1.8 percent of votes. The fact that there are 26.2 percent of undecided voters means, however, that these figures are not final and that—until the June elections—we can still see many a change. One more thing: 87.8 percent of citizens are determined to go to the election polls.

List of Parties Contesting Elections in SR

AU1404162490 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
11 Apr 90 p 1

[CTK report: "Before the First Session of the Central Electoral Commission; Five Blocs Appear in Coalitions"]

[Text] Prague/Bratislava—Milan Calfa, the premier of the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, on the basis of the authorization granted him by the Law on Elections to the Federal Assembly, called the first session of the Central Electoral Commission for Thursday, 12 April 1990, 1000, at Valdstejn palace, Valdstejn Square 4, Prague 1—Little Quarter.

All the political parties, movements, and alliances which will run in the approaching elections in the three regions of Slovakia and in Bratislava were announced yesterday morning. Most of them, 19, were registered by the electoral commission in the region of Central Slovakia, the fewest, 14, were registered in the region of Eastern Slovakia.

The following parties decided to submit separate lists of candidates in the Slovak Republic: the Democratic Party, Movement for Czechoslovak Understanding, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Christian Democratic Movement, Political Alliance of Members of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation [Politicke zoskupenie clenov Matice Slovenskej], Slovak National Party, Freedom Party, Green Party, and the Public Against Violence Movement. The Czechoslovak Democratic Forum and the Civil Liberties' Movement decided on separate lists of candidates only in the region of Central Slovakia. The Czechoslovak Socialist Party and the Free Bloc—a coalition composed of the Republican Union, the Party of Constitutional Democracy, the Party of Free Democrats, and the Party of Czechoslovak Neutrality—are running in elections everywhere with the exception of the region of Eastern Slovakia. National Liberals prepared lists of candidates in all regions. Their list was not accepted, however, in the region of Western Slovakia because, contrary to the electoral law, they proposed an identical candidate for the Federal Assembly and the Slovak National Council, a candidate younger than 18 years, and some other prerequisites were omitted. The case will be assessed by the Slovak Electoral Commission.

Five blocs enter the elections as coalitions. The Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, which consists of the Political Movement of Members of United Agricultural Cooperatives, Czechoslovak Agricultural Party, Party of the Moravian Countryside, Republican Party of the Czechoslovak Countryside, Party of National Prosperity, Liberal Democratic Party, and the Party of Free Democrats. Voters' appreciation will also be solicited by the Social Democratic Party in Slovakia together with the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party, as well as under the joint banner of Social Democracy. In addition, there is the All-People's Democratic Party/Association for the Republic and the Republican Party of Czechoslovakia. Our Magyar fellow countrymen will have the opportunity to vote for the Magyar Christian Democratic Movement and the political movement Coexistence. Lists of candidates for the Slovak National Council, as well as for both Chambers of the Federal Assembly were also submitted by the alliance Romanies composed of members of the Party of the Democratic Union of Romanies in Slovakia and the Party of Integration of Romanies in Slovakia.

List of Parties Running in CR Elections

AU1404170590 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech
10 Apr 90 p 7

[CTK report: The Elections Are Awaiting Us in 59 Days; the Deadline for the Registration of Parties and Movements for Elections has Passed"]

[Excerpt] Yesterday, according to the Electoral Law, the legal deadline for registration of the political parties, movements, and their alliances with recorders of the regional electoral commissions, passed.

Unofficial information obtained by CTK correspondents reveals that the following submitted applications for registration to the regional national committees and the national committees of Prague and Bratislava by 1800 yesterday (in alphabetical order):

Czechoslovak Democratic Forum, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Democratic Party, Movement for Czechoslovak Understanding, Civic Liberties' Movement, Movement for Self-Governing Democracy—Society for Moravia and Silesia [Hnuti za samospravnou demokracii—Spolecnost pro Moravu a Slezsko], Czechoslovak Communist Party, Christian and Democratic Union (formed by Czechoslovak People's Party, Christian Democratic Party, and Christian Democratic Movement), National Liberals, Civic Forum and Public Against Violence, Organization of Independent Romanians [Organizace nezavislych Rumunu], Political Movement for Democracy and Right of Ethnic Minorities Coexistence—Wspolnota [Polish for "coexistence"]—Egyutteles [Polish for "coexistence"] together with the Magyar Christian Democratic Movement, Political Alliance of Members of the Slovak National Heritage Foundation, Slovak National Party, Social Democracy (composed of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party in Slovakia), the Party of Friends of Beer, Freedom Party, Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside (consisting of the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party, Czechoslovak Party of Integration, Party of the Moravian Countryside, Republican Party of the Countryside, the Movement for Equal Status of Women in Bohemia and Moravia, the Political Movement of Members of United Agricultural Cooperatives, the Movement of Senior Citizens for Social Guarantees, and the Countrywide Citizen Caucus), Green Party, Party of Romanies (a coalition), Free Bloc (Party of Constitutional Democracy, Party of Free Democrats, Party of Czechoslovak Neutrality, and the Republican Union movement), Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in Czech Republic, and the All-People's Democratic Party together with the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia.

The parties, movements, and coalitions listed above submitted applications to register either for elections to both chambers of the Federal Assembly and also to the National Council, or for only one of these bodies. So far, the survey is not complete because the registration remained open in some regions as late as 2400 hours, and the applications could have been mailed (the date of the postmark is decisive). The parties standing for election named concurrently their candidates for the electoral commissions.

Central Bohemia:

Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Green Party and the Civic Forum, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, Christian and Democratic Union, the coalition of All-People's Democratic Party and the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, the coalition of the Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, and the coalition Free Bloc.

Eastern Bohemia:

Six political parties, six movements, and three coalitions were registered at the Regional National Committee in Hradec Kralove by 1800. The Green Party was the first, on 3 April, the fifteenth was the coalition Free Bloc just before 1800.

Northern Bohemia:

Green Party, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Party of Friends of Beer, Czechoslovak Democratic Forum, Civic Forum, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, the coalition of the Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, the alliance Free Bloc, the coalition of All-People's Democratic Party and the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, Christian and Democratic Union, and the Movement for Czechoslovak Understanding.

Capital City of Prague:

Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Democratic Forum, Party of Friends of Beer, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Green Party, Civic Forum, Free Bloc, Christian and Democratic Union, Coalition of the Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, and the coalition of All-People's Democratic Party and the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, Civil Liberties' Movement, Movement for Self- Governing Democracy—Society for Moravia and Silesia and Movement for Czechoslovak Understanding, coalition of Magyar Christian Democratic Movement and Wspolnota-Coexistence-Egyutteles.

Southern Bohemia:

Czechoslovak Communist Party, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Party of Friends of Beer, Czechoslovak Democratic Forum, Green Party, Civic Forum, Christian and Democratic Union, Coalition of the Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, Coalition of All-People's Democratic Party and the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, Civil Liberties' Movement, Society for Moravia and Silesia, Movement for Czechoslovak Understanding, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, and Free Bloc.

Southern Moravia:

Green Party, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Party of Friends of Beer, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Civic Forum, Coalition of the Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, Coalition of All-People's Democratic Party and the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, Christian and Democratic Union, Free Bloc and Movement for Self- Governing Democracy—Society for Moravia and Silesia.

Northern Moravia:

Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Green Party, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Civic Forum, Christian and Democratic Union, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, Coalition of the Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, Free Bloc, Movement for Czechoslovak Understanding, Civil Liberties' Movement, Movement for Self-Governing Democracy—Society for Moravia and Silesia, Coalition of Magyar and Polish ethnic minorities, Czechoslovak Democratic Forum, and Organization of Independent Romanians.

Western Bohemia:

Green Party, Czechoslovak Communist Party, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Czechoslovak Social Democracy, Civic Forum, Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside, Christian and Democratic Union, Electoral Alliance of Interest Groups in the Czech Republic, Coalition of All-People's Democratic Party and the Association for the Republic—Republican Party of Czechoslovakia, and the coalition Free Bloc. [passage omitted]

Private Farmers Leader on Coalition Preferences

AU0804192890 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 2 Apr 90 p 1

[Interview with Vladislav Hlavko, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Free Farmers Party, by LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE correspondent "kcr" at the party's constituent congress in Prague on 31 March: "Free Farmers Go With Us"]

[Text] [LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE] Why did your party refuse to join the alliance of rural parties?

[Hlavko] Until about three weeks ago we demanded that the countryside go into the elections with a single list of candidates. However, this intended alliance has been wrecked by the Party of the Czech Countryside and by the Czechoslovak Republican Agrarian Party [which decided to run on the Civic Forum list of candidates]; therefore, we no longer feel bound by the original promise. The present alliance of the parties of the countryside is dominated by left-wing forces—by the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party and by the Political Movement of Cooperative Farmers. We, on the other hand, are a right-of-center party.

[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE] Why does the Civic Forum not suit you?

[Hlavko] Our relations with the Civic Forum are correct. We subscribe to the same ideals but our ideas on ways of implementing them differ. Also, the Civic Forum's attitude to the smaller political parties which it associates is not exactly democratic.

[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE] The free farmers decided by a majority of votes that they will contest the elections together with the Czechoslovak People's Party [CSL]. What determined this decision?

[Hlavko] We believe that the CSL is a solid partner. It is right-of-center as we are. This is why we should join forces, especially because the Civic Forum's strength is abating. Let us not forget that most of our members profess the same values of Christian humanism as the CSL.

[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE] The two parties also share the same view on the privatization of the countryside....

[Hlavko] Together we want to put into reverse the bad system which the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia was building for 40 years. Members of united agricultural cooperatives do not realize as yet that a catastrophe is rolling against them in the form of the market economy, in which gigantic agricultural enterprises cannot hold their own because of their enormous costs. We want equal competition between private and other producers and a renewal of the right attitude toward the land on the basis of real ownership.

New Trade Union Body in Czech Republic

AU1104220890 Prague PRACE in Czech 6 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

["KOS"-signed report: "Complicated Courting With the Government; From a Session of the General Council of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions"]

[Excerpts] Prague—The General Council of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions (CSKOS) met at its third session in the House of Trade Unions in Prague yesterday. Invited representatives of the Confederation of Art and Culture (KUK) and of the Independent Slovak Trade Unions (NSO) participated in the session as guests. [passage omitted]

At the close of the session, the Czech part of the confederation set up the Czech-Moravian Chamber of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions [Ceskomoravska komora CSKOS]. Vladimir Petrus, chairman of the Trade Union of Printing Industry Workers, was elected its chairman. Furthermore, the session elected an eight- member Presidium of the Czech-Moravian Chamber of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions and set up a commission that will draft the joint statutes of both chambers.

Czech Minority in Ukraine Sets Up Organization

AU1104221390 Prague PRACE in Czech 9 Apr 90 p 4

[Unattributed report from the "Across the World" column: "Compatriots Organize"]

[Text] The Jan Amos Komensky Society [Spolecnost Jana Amose Komenskeho], a Czechoslovak cultural and educational organization, was set up in the Ukraine on Saturday [7 April]. It will focus on strengthening, expanding, and propagating the Czech and Slovak language and culture among Czechs and Slovaks living in this Soviet republic.

Political Prisoners' Aims Outlined

AU1104182190

[Editorial Report] Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech on 7 April on page 4, under the headline "It Is Impossible to Excuse Judicial Murder," carries a 1,400-word interview with Rudolf Pernicky, chairman of the Confederation of Political Prisoners, by Petr Radosta.

In his first question, Radosta asks if the Confederation of Political Prisoners is a successor to the K 231 club, and he also wants to know what its aims are. Pernicky replies that the confederation "is indeed continuing the activities of K 231, an organization founded in 1968. As far as our aims are concerned, from the very beginning we have supported the point of view—expressed in the preamble to the General Declaration on Human Rights—that 'a citizen has the right, when everything else has broken down, to resist tyranny and pressure.' We did not commit any offenses against the people of this country, but we placed ourselves in opposition to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia's (CPCZ) seizure of power, in opposition to the party which, during its period in office, caused death and the suffering of millions of people and brought the country to the verge of destruction."

Other questions concern the issue of rehabilitation. Radosta states that Communists rehabilitated other Communists, and that one of those who had been rehabilitated introduced the normalization process. Pernicky replied, "it was G. Husak and his colleagues who in 1970, when they came to power, halted rehabilitations. Once again those striving for civic liberties were persecuted. During the years 1968-75 alone, 4,829 citizens were sentenced for this reason."

In his final question, Radosta asks what is now most important for the Confederation of Political Prisoners. According to Pernicky, "at the moment, Confederation members and their families are interested in the law on rehabilitation which will be discussed by the Federal Assembly in the second half of April. Despite the fact that the submitted draft law has disregarded some of our suggestions, it conforms to the period 22 years ago. Therefore, before it is debated, we will endeavor to ensure that some important changes are made."

In conclusion, Pernicky adds, "we will demand that the CPCZ returns what it so unscrupulously took away from us and what its members so shamelessly, and to the detriment of others, enriched themselves with!"

Commission Lists Casualties of 17 Nov Events

LD1204210390 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1300 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] The Independent Commission of Health Employees of the Civic Forum, which was looking for those wounded during the interference on 17 November last year in Prague, has now virtually concluded its activities. Its members announced today that the following were registered according to the kind of injury: 28 fractures, for the most part fractures of the face and arms; 56 concussions; 17 contusions of the brain, which is a graver wound capable of inflicting permanent damage; 58 psychological traumas; and 54 lacerations of the head, arms, and legs. Various contusions were suffered by 487 people, out of this 126 people suffered contusions of the head. According to the view of the commission, 180 people face permanent consequences.

Out of the overall number of injured, 226 were university students, 57 secondary school students, and three children from primary schools. The youngest wounded person was 13 years old and the oldest was 83 years old.

The Independent Commission of Health Employees of Civic Forum assesses the interference on 17 November as a public threat, despite the fact that from the legal point of view, the matter is being viewed as a breach of law, and the military prosecution speaks about the misuse of jurisdiction by a public official.

Civic Forum Periodical To Be Published as Daily

AU1204142190 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 6 Apr 90 p 7

["jak"-signed report: Restraint Which Is Incongruous With Democracy; Will Obroda Revive Delta?"]

[Text] "The management of the Delta publishing house set us—the editorial management and the council of workers—before a fait accompli. As of 1 April, the Obroda [Revival] party took over Delta, previously owned by the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee. Not only were our comments on this action not requested, we were asked for a fortnight's restraint—that is to say until the prescribed period of time for submission of contingent objections to its entry in the register of companies expired," Stanislav Pscheidt, the chief editor of the weekly ROZHLAS [Radio], told us yesterday. He passed on to us a statement of the editorial workers which reads: "Although, allegedly, this pertains to the temporary rights of the founder, [zakladatel] this attitude is unacceptable, particularly now, during the preelection campaign. Therefore, we appeal to all the decisionmaking political forces to earnestly deal with this action and to prevent the recording of the new

founder in the register of companies. It is our opinion that the announced transition period before the law on joint stock companies is issued (originally, Delta was to become a joint stock company) can be bridged in a more acceptable manner." This is an obvious accusation of shady dealings. We phoned Obroda and one of the officials, Zdenek Hradilak, answerd: "We did not deal with the Czechoslovak Communist Party but with Delta and are taking it over only temporarily. In other words, at this time, when Delta is more or less hanging in the air, it is saved by the takeover. Moreover, we also have in mind the benefit for the Civic Forum, of which we are a part—as a political movement (not a party). By 20 April, FORUM [the Civic Forum weekly] will be published here as a daily. We will not interfere with the work of other editorial offices."

Kohl, De Maiziere To Meet in Late Apr

LD1504090290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0757 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN)—Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl will meet newly elected GDR premier Lothar de Maiziere "immediately after returning from the Easter holidays on 23 April," says a report in WELT AM SONNTAG. The next steps on the way to monetary, economic, and social union should then be negotiated.

The newspaper has found out from the federal chancellery that Kohl and De Maiziere have had "repeated telephone conversations on the matter" The basic values of the state treaty to be signed between Bonn and Berlin are to be negotiated by the beginning of May, and the signing of the treaty can take place later. "But in May the GDR citizens should know where they stand", WELT AM SONNTAG writes.

Formation of People's Chamber Groups Detailed

AU1304120990 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10 Apr 90 p 5

[ND report: "People's Chamber Groups"]

[Text] At its first constituent session on 5 April 1990, the People's Chamber adopted a resolution on the formation of the People's Chamber groups. At the moment there are the following:

1. Christian Democratic Union with 163 members. Chairman: Lothar de Maiziere.
2. Social Democratic Party with 88 members. Chairman: Richard Schroeder.
3. Party of Democratic Socialism with 66 members. Chairman: Gregor Gysi.
4. German Social Union with 25 members. Chairman: Hansjoachim Walther.
5. The Liberals with 23 members. Chairman: Rainer Ortleb. This group includes the two former deputies of the National Democratic Party of Germany.
6. Alliance 90/Greens with 20 members. Spokespersons: Jens Reich, Vera Wollenberger, Wolfgang Ullmann.
7. Democratic Peasants Party/Democratic Women's League with 10 members. Chairman: Guenther Maleuda.

The four members of Democratic Awakening and the deputy of the United Left do not belong to any group.

Church Leader on Presidential Candidacy

LD1504074790 Hamburg DPA in German 0601 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—Manfred Stolpe, the consistory president of the Evangelical Church of Berlin-Brandenburg, has described as "pure speculation" the idea that he will become GDR president. There have been no inquiries or decisions on this matter at all, Stolpe said today in an interview on Deutschlandfunk. But Stolpe does not want to rule out the possibility that a representative of the church could become president.

The consistory president urged unification according to article 23 of the basic law. The GDR can state very soon its intention of acceding to the scope of validity of the basic law. After this the conditions for state unity can then be negotiated, parallel to a monetary, economic, and social union.

But here laws in force from the GDR, such as for example in the social field as well as in safeguarding of the distribution of property, ought to be included in the basic law. In the transitional period the law-governed state must remain protected in the GDR. Parts of the already changed constitution can be revised or supplemented.

The interview was conveyed to DPA in an edited version.

Commentary on Formation of New Government

AU1304091590 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10 Apr 90 p 1

[Reiner Oschmann commentary: "Filled Posts, Open Questions"]

[Text] Twenty-two days after the parliamentary elections, after a tug-of-war, after speculations and irritations between potential, desired, and unwanted coalition partners, yesterday evening the poker of negotiations was concluded at least regarding personnel questions. The grand coalition is practically perfect; the ministerial posts have been filled. This is perhaps the best piece of news from yesterday, Monday, because of the "pressure of expectation" (as designated Premier de Maiziere said) that now, after the haggling about posts, material questions come to the foreground is increasing day by day.

What is striking about the cabinet list? 1. The fact that what is probably the last GDR Government intends to make do without borrowing personnel from the neighbors should be marked on the asset side even now. 2. The ministers in some key areas (Interior Ministry and Foreign Ministry) are strikingly and laudably young (both born in 1952). 3. For the first time the GDR has a minister of disarmament and defense—congratulations! 4. The struggle for the formation of the government took a long time, probably too long if one thinks of the urgency of the problems and the impatience of the people in the country. 5. The Social Democratic Party [SPD] has received the seven ministerial seats it wanted, the German Social Union was kept on a comparably short leash, but it was compensated for this with the very important post of interior minister.

Of course, a number of material questions remain. For instance: Will the big alliance partner now—after he showed readiness for consensus out of consideration for the sensibilities of the Social Democrats—deal with the SPD all the more harshly concerning the SPD's proper

behavior in all questions which make two-thirds majorities indispensable? Will the SPD be able to credibly underpin its claim of being the advocate of the little man, or will it capitulate to those who have become known as advocates of completely different groups?

One other thing is clear: The cabinet will hardly have a period of grace, a 100-day honeymoon. Impatience reigns in the country—let us wish the government luck for this reason alone, in the interest of the small savers and average income earners, of children, women, and pensioners, and of all those who have acquired a small house or a summerhouse and who are currently worried about their rights to property and use.

Finance Minister Designate on Currency Conversion

LD1304205190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1958 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Bonn (ADN)—In a conversation with the national daily newspaper DIE WELT, Saturday's edition which appears in Bonn, Dr. Walter Romberg, the GDR minister of finance, emphasized that he is still reckoning on the introduction of the monetary, economic, and social union between the two German states before the summer recess. He announced an extensive tax and budgetary reform together with the conversion of the currency. A turnover tax and consumption tax must be introduced soon. In addition the enterprises can no longer be forced to affect contributions independent of their capacity.

On the subject of currency conversion, Romberg said that the Federal Government must understand that the GDR population does not have any sympathy for an exchange rate that is different from one to one. [passage omitted]

Preparations for Unification

AU1404172690 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 12 Apr 90 p 2

[Interview with Finance Minister designate Walter Romberg by Elke Schmidtke; place and date not given: "First Study the Situation, then Prepare Monetary Union"]

[Text] [Schmidtke] As the finance minister designate of the future cabinet of De Maiziere, what do regard as your first challenge?

[Romberg] First of all we will thoroughly study the financial situation of our country. There are a lot of things that I must learn. Then we will have to make intensive preparations for the monetary union. We will also have to change our attitude toward the money. We will have to use it more efficiently than in the past. Moreover, we will make cuts.

[Schmidtke] Do you already have an idea in what areas you will make cuts?

[Romberg] This will also be one of my first tasks, namely to familiarize myself with the situation. Personally, I hope that we can make more and more cuts in the sphere of the defense budget.

[Schmidtke] You were the head of the GDR expert group that discussed economic and monetary questions with experts in the FRG. Will you benefit from this?

[Romberg] On that occasion I had my first experience with this matter and had a first idea. I know that our side has made intensive preparations for the monetary union. Some of the questions that arise are very difficult and involve the conversion of the economy; after all we want an agreement on monetary union, economic union and social union. As the social democrats we have a special interest in solving the social problems which will certainly increase as a consequence of the monetary union.

[Schmidtke] What conversion rate do you advocate?

[Romberg] We have always said that we are in favor of the 1:1 exchange rate for savings accounts, even though the whole amount might not be immediately available in cash. As far as salaries are concerned we also want the 1:1 rate. For pensions we believe that people should get 70 percent of the net pension after a working period of 45 years, that is to say 70 percent of the corresponding pensions in the FRG.

[Schmidtke] Gerhard Pohl, the economics minister designate of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU], stated that more than 30 percent of the state-owned enterprises are unfit to survive. Do you share his opinion?

[Romberg] I regard this percentage as too high. As far as I know it should be possible to make a certain share of the enterprises competitive by providing modest amounts of capital. Then there is a large group of enterprises that require large-scale investments. The third group consists of enterprises that will probably not be competitive in the long run.

[Schmidtke] How can the GDR get rid of its mountain of debts?

[Romberg] This will be a difficult task. As I said before, we will have to make cuts in many areas. On the other hand, some of our industrial enterprises are of course very efficient. To what extent we will be able to use these in order to stabilize our situation by our own force will depend on how skillfully we pursue our economic policy.

Monetary Union

AU1504165990 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 14 Apr 90 p 11

[Report on interview with Finance Minister designate Walter Romberg by Detlev Ahlers and Bettina Schulz; place and date not given: "We Insist on 1:1 for Savings"]

[Excerpts] [Text] The monetary, economic, and social union must be introduced before the summer recess. This was demanded by GDR Finance Minister Walter

Romberg, of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD], in his first newspaper interview. Romberg pointed out that the FRG Government must understand that the population of the GDR does not have any sympathy for an exchange rate that is different from one to one. Detlev Ahlers and Bettina Schulz conducted the following interview with Walter Romberg:

[DIE WELT] Mr. Minister, what are your most urgent tasks after the election?

[Romberg] All the preparatory work for the monetary union. You know that we are conducting negotiations on a state treaty with the FRG, which I hope we will conclude. No date has been set yet for the day "X", however it is widely expected that this day will still be before the summer recess. This requires a lot of preparation. The talks will have to focus on the conversion rate for savings, but also for wages and salaries, pensions, insurances, and, naturally, debts. This involves also a great number of legal regulations. As soon as we get the Deutsche mark [DM] here, and the central bank in Frankfurt assumes monetary sovereignty, we will of course also have to introduce the corresponding tax system.

[DIE WELT] What should be the rate for the conversion of the currency in your opinion?

[Romberg] We continue to start from the premise that savings accounts will be exchanged 1:1. Our population would not understand any other solution. This does not mean that we do not have to make our own contributions too. However, particularly at the beginning the correct exchange rate is most important for political and psychological reasons. The FRG Government should understand this too, and I have the impression that it does. There is of course a certain margin for the amount that should be immediately paid out at 1:1. I think that one should at least try to make it between DM5,000 and DM7,000.

[DIE WELT] You too consider the amount of DM30,000, which was suggested by Economics Minister Pohl—to be too high?

[Romberg] If it were possible one should of course accept it. However, this depends on the overall balance. The savings that exceed the first threshold level can be treated in many different ways. One can exchange certain amounts at 1:1 immediately and transform them into fixed assets. It is also conceivable to set certain dates after which further amounts can be exchanged and cashed in at 1:1. It is also conceivable that, in the case of very high savings, further parts are exchanged only after the GDR economy has become more efficient. Yet one can also imagine that amounts exceeding the initial sum are also paid out immediately, however at a lower exchange rate.

[DIE WELT] Do you not fear that the 1:1 conversion rate might have an impact on the stability of the Deutsche mark?

[Romberg] I know that there is fear of a purchasing wave, which might have a certain effect when large amounts of money are exchanged, which is why I do not really understand the DM30,000 threshold level. After all, these inflationary tendencies would become particularly noticeable in that case.

[DIE WELT] There are certain reservations within the population concerning very large savings accounts. Will the conversion of these accounts at the 1:1 rate not create certain ill-feelings?

[Romberg] I understand this problem. However it is a problem that touches on the question of the rule of law, where and to what extent one should examine whether certain savings were acquired legally. I do not absolutely exclude this. One must not infringe on the principles of the rule of law.

[DIE WELT] Do you insist on the conversion of accounts at a certain date in the past?

[Romberg] At any rate I would support a date that is in the distant past, to prevent cases of speculation, which were obviously quite considerable in the past two months.

[DIE WELT] The day of the opening of the wall could be the key date, for example.

[Romberg] Yes, why not.

[DIE WELT] Once the conversion of the monetary system takes place, the federal bank must assume monetary sovereignty over the GDR as well. This would be a decisive surrender of sovereign rights. What do you think of it?

[Romberg] It is certainly problematic. However, I think that if we really implement the monetary union, this will be part of it. Otherwise, one would have had to seek another form of economic community. [passage omitted]

[DIE WELT] Is day X for the monetary union also day X for harmonizing the tax systems?

[Romberg] There will be certain things that must be introduced swiftly, such as the value added tax and excise duties. On the other hand, the large combines and part of the enterprises will continue to pay taxes into the central fund, even though in Deutsche marks. As far a small and medium-sized enterprises are concerned, one will certainly and immediately find another way.

[DIE WELT] Are the enterprises strong enough to survive a 1:1 conversion rate for wages?

[Romberg] This depends on the development of the state budget. In the case of small or maybe even larger enterprises, parts of the subsidies will have to be used for maintaining the wage levels. You are certainly familiar with the proposal to convert salaries and wages at 1:1, and to supply some of the necessary money from outside the enterprises, from the state budget in the form of

subsidies that were not paid out. Thus, it is possible to fund the 1:1 conversion rate for salaries and wages. The advantage of this scheme is that it can be changed gradually.

[DIE WELT] When will a profound price reform be introduced in the GDR? It should actually be implemented before the conversion of the wages?

[Romberg] I see no possibility to introduce price reforms before the upcoming local elections or even in the period between these elections and day X. However, this is my personal opinion. I start from the premise that the new price regulation will come into force on the day of the monetary conversion. [passage omitted]

[DIE WELT] Are you an equal partner or are you the person responsible for implementing in the GDR what the FRG dictates?

[Romberg] We assume that we will conduct negotiations. One does not conduct negotiations in order to write down what the other side wants. My position is that of a person that really wants to negotiate. In the coalition talks we also established the guidelines for our policy, and these are clear. We are bound by these guidelines. It would be a mistake if the FRG Government were to fail to accept that these guidelines set a framework for our talks, and that we are answerable to our population on the basis of this framework.

[DIE WELT] Are these guidelines absolute conditions or are they the basis for talks?

[Romberg] It depends. In any negotiations one always has certain positions that one cannot give up.

[DIE WELT] What are they?

[Romberg] The right to work. This does not mean that we perceive this as and individual right. However, we must create social securities in the GDR that guarantee retraining and unemployment benefits in the case of unemployment. Although the right to work is not an individual right, it is a guideline for the policy of our state. It is not enough to have an unemployment insurance and to thus accept unemployment. It also includes a whole array of measures, such as the distribution of work as an objective that must be aimed at in a step-by-step process.

[DIE WELT] Does this not mean that one gives up negotiations between employers and employees?

[Romberg] If one takes the right to work as a serious objective for the policy of the state, then it is a demand that must also be supported and gradually implemented by the state. There are certainly different forms for it. I know that some Western politicians find it difficult to accept this idea. However, the issue of the right to work is a vital question in the GDR. The people here have enormous identity problems. Part of their identity has been that having a job is a matter of course. In the FRG you are living in a system of values where the individual rights prevail. Here in the GDR the people have been more strongly shaped by the social context.

Upcoming Bush-Gorbachev Summit Viewed

AU1004142590 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 7-8 Apr 90 p 1

[Klaus Wilczynski commentary: "Faster Toward the Summit"]

[Text] At their meeting in Malta in 1989, Gorbachev and Bush envisaged a date in June for the next summit. Now it is to be moved up to 30 May. The new date, which was announced at the meeting of the foreign ministers of the two super powers, shows that both sides consider the further improvement of their relations to be urgently necessary and already want to neutralize disturbing facts at the very beginning, and, therefore, do not want to lose any time.

This is good because since the positive results of Malta new profound developments have taken place. These include the topical process of the unification of the two German states and the inner-Soviet conflict about Lithuania's independence. Both questions are controversial, and were, therefore, discussed extensively by Shevardnadze and Baker. It was probably not a coincidence that at the same time FRG Foreign Minister Genscher was peddling his wares from door to door around the capitol.

At the beginning of the meeting between the Soviet and U.S. foreign ministers it almost seemed as if Lithuania would be the central issue. The extreme right in Washington already saw its opportunity to throw a monkey wrench into the works. However, the Bush administration did not permit itself to be pushed onto this dangerous line. The upcoming international processes, which require cooperation between the two super powers and the questions that had been listed in Malta and have to be solved together were more important.

The Malta catalogue envisaged the signing of an agreement on the reduction of strategic weapons, as well as an agreement on underground nuclear tests. It also called for essential progress on the ban on chemical weapons already at the next summit, if possible. Even though the START Treaty is probably not quite ready for signature, all these problems became the focal issue. The United States and the USSR continue to orient themselves toward mutual detente.

Gysi Comments on Compulsory Military Service

AU1404183590 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 12 Apr 90 p 5

[Article by Gregor Gysi, chairman of the Party of Democratic Socialism: "Will Security Still Need Compulsory Military Service in the Future?"]

[Text] The proposal of the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS] to abolish compulsory military service

in the GDR as soon as possible is certainly not receiving unanimous support. Some people consider it unrealistic or an election campaign trick, others as making the Army uncertain and even directed against Army members.

Why are we in favor of such a step? We assume that the East-West conflict, which has characterized the European postwar order, will increasingly disappear. This will put an end to the military confrontation of the European states, which are organized in the two blocs of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Political goals can no longer be enforced by military means. Nevertheless, there is an unjustifiable potential of threat and social resources are used for armament to an extent, which at least comes close to the effects of the use of weapons of mass destruction.

Therefore, general and complete disarmament is one of the basic political goals of our party. The European process of renewal offers new opportunities for this—not least as a result of the democratic changes in the East European countries. They must be used in a politically responsible way.

Our goal is a democratic, antifascist, and demilitarized Germany. It should coexist only in friendship with all its neighbors. Because of the historic guilt of the Germans for two devastating wars in his century and in expectation of its strong economic capacity, this new Germany, which is developing as a result of a process of unification, is acceptable for our party only if it radically disarms. It should be integrated in new, nonmilitary cooperative security structures.

The political growing together of the two German states will be difficult, anyway. It could be made easier if it took place without the burden of military expenditures, armed forces, and the new development or modernization of weapons. Therefore, we are for the transition to a security partnership as a contribution to collective security in Europe by reducing the National People's Army [NVA] and the Bundeswehr, by cutting military expenditures for the benefit of civilian development not only in the two German states, by establishing a mutual incapability for attack in Europe.

Abolishing compulsory military service in both German states would be a first credible step on this path. If the FRG is not willing to do this, we are for taking this step unilaterally and in free self-determination in the GDR.

We are not unrealistic dreamers. As long as the GDR exists as a sovereign state and the FRG does not follow suit, the GDR will have armed forces. Their tasks must be, above all, to implement the disarmament projects agreed on in Vienna and those that go perhaps beyond that and to participate in the establishment of new security concepts and structures. As long as the NVA has to fulfill duties within the framework of the Warsaw Pact, the respective military units must work reliably and in a disciplined way. The ready-alert system must remain stable. Joining NATO and having the NVA participate in a German Army as some idea of military unification is unacceptable for us.

The democratic forces within the GDR probably concur to a great extent on the goals for the projects of disarmament and demilitarization which are faced by the GDR and its Army. Political realism demands we envisage for this development an overall, planned, socially compatible, and internationally secure process, which might take several years. The "security model 2000," which has been proposed by our party, has also proceeded from this process.

In our party's view, the social concerns of the Army members, civilian employees, their families, and working people in this special production, who are affected by disarmament and conversion, must be the focus of any considerations. In particular because the current social upheaval goes hand in hand with many social conflicts, the state has the duty to give special support to the Army members and to guarantee their social security.

By abolishing compulsory military service, the NVA could be basically reduced to half of its current personnel by the end of this year. The transition to an army of volunteers would secure the jobs for the majority of the current professional and temporary soldiers for the time being, even if some officers would have to do uncustomary and unusual military work during a transitional period. Their juridical and social position should be settled by individual service contracts. We are certainly in favor of giving them civil-servant status.

In addition to the military part, the training of new military cadres must be aimed at favorable professional prospects under market economy conditions. Correspondingly, the officers' colleges and other NVA teaching institutions would have to smoothly change their training profile. Every professional soldiers, who is discharged for civilian work, must be offered a corresponding qualification opportunity. For every affected garrison, town, or village, for the respective troops, units, and institutions specific plans for civilian conversion, for the economic and ecological utilization of Army facilities must be worked out. Through the civilian use of current military facilities a great number of modern, attractive, and secure jobs are to be created.

Of course, this must not be left to its own. Given suitable state framework conditions, the affected Army members and working people at the respective site have to find their own, most favorable varieties in coordination with their local administration. Soldiers' Councils, trade unions, and the Association of Professional Soldiers are certainly a critical and constructive partner for the commanders, in order to implement the great idea of disarmament in such a way that no one loses and everyone wins. Members of our party should participate in these institutions precisely in this spirit and in a grass-roots democratic way.

The PDS group in the People's Chamber will work to abolish compulsory military service by the end of this year. It will present a specific initiative for a law, which links the interests of the professional soldiers with the requirements of disarmament. Our group expects the future new government that it will call upon the FRG Government to pursue disarmament in the interest of a non-threatening unification process. We will point out promises that were made during the election campaign.

East Berlin Stages All-German Easter March

LD1504124690 Hamburg DPA in German 1140 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The first all-German Easter march began this afternoon in East Berlin. Several thousand people gathered on Monbijou Square and listened to the speeches and musical items in which there were calls for peace and disarmament.

The chairman of the East Berlin Jewish community, Peter Kirchner, spoke against excluding the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] follow-up party, the Party for Democratic Socialism [PDS]. Those participating in the rally should also ask themselves whether they had failed, he said. He assessed the Easter march as an expression of joint action between West and East.

Here Kirchner was alluding to the clashes in the run-up to the Easter march. Konrad Weiss, the spokesman from Democracy Now who had originally been scheduled as a speaker, cancelled his appearance on account of the participation of the Party for Democratic Socialism, the Free German Youth, and the Christian Peace Conference, which he said had been controlled by the SED. The West Berlin Social Democratic Party also distanced itself from the PDS, but for reasons of principle continued to support the Easter march.

The mainly young participants carried placards labeled "Easter March 90". Some waved GDR flags. Many families brought their children with them in the sunny weather. The first joint event of the peace movements in the two parts of the city is to finish with a final rally this afternoon and a celebration on Hermann Square in Neukoelln.

Left-Wing Parties Stage Disarmament March

LD1504111790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0949 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Halle (ADN)—"Germany—disarmed fatherland" was one of the banners which Halle's Easter marchers carried with them on Sunday. The march, organized jointly by the United Left, the Carnations, the Communist Party of Germany, the Marxist Youth Association, the Party of Democratic Socialism, and other left groupings was completely devoted to the struggle for demilitarization of the two German states. At a short meeting the participants spoke in favor of leaving both military alliances. The use of financial means for arms was rejected.

"Jobs instead of firing ranges" and "FRG yes—but demilitarized" were further demands on the march from town center to the Franzigmark before the gates of Halle where there is a National People's Army exercise area. Information stands of the organizers, food and drink, childrens games, and Easter bonfires were waiting here for the several hundred participants on the march.

'FRG Expellees' Organizations Criticized

AU1304120590 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 11 Apr 90 p 2

[Herbert Annas commentary: "Machinations of the 'Expellees'"]

[Text] The professional FRG expellees are becoming increasingly bold. After Czaja (Christian Democratic Union), the chief of their umbrella organization, who demanded entire Polish regions ("114,000 square kilometers"), now Secretary General Koschyk of the Federal Expellees' Association has again called for the renewed division of Poland.

This no longer involves the usual nonsense. The tone has become harsher, the attacks have become even more aggressive. The professional revanchists are attacking Poland and all people who are not willing to accept changes in the borders with full barrages. Koschyk even wants a "Polish apology." In his distorted view, it was not the Nazi attack and Hitler's aggression that were the reason for territorial changes. He declares the victims perpetrators.

But this is not yet enough for the "general" of the revanchists. The Poles should finally stop making "ever new demands" for the recognition of their Western border and for the "two-plus-four conference," he says. Otherwise, the FRG would have to "reconsider" its economic cooperation with Warsaw, he states, putting pressure on Bonn.

There is no doubt: Czaja, Hupka, Koschyk, and their followers are sniffing a morning breeze. In case of the unification of the two German states, they do not want to stop at the Oder and Neisse rivers. The ambiguous attitude of Bonn's chancellor on the Polish border and Kohl's talk that a final settlement is possible only in a peace treaty, is stimulating the "expellees" to new machinations.

Concerned voices in West Europe point out that anyone who calls into question the borders of 1937 is laying mines in the path of the peaceful coexistence of the peoples on the continent. Does Bonn not understand this? How long is the Christian Democratic Union going to let Czaja and his followers have their own way?

Custom Violations of Imports From FRG

AU1304103990 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 11 Apr 90 p 3

[ADN/ND report: "Customs Officials Are Very Busy: 4.5 Million Seized"]

[Text] East Berlin—In March GDR customs offices carried out 9,757 customs and foreign currency proceedings. This was announced by the press office of the Customs Administration on Tuesday [10 April]. The overwhelming majority involved violations of the foreign currency law. Thus, the import and export of 4.5 million GDR marks was prevented. As regards imports, customs officials found up to M135,000. The money was allegedly intended to be used as "starting capital for the founding of enterprises." In another case, the persons involved wanted to open "accounts in the GDR," in order to speculate with a view to the monetary union.

At the Hirschberg checkpoint a citizen, who lives outside the GDR, did not declare M109,000 at the customs. The money came from approved sales of goods in the GDR. However, the transfer of profits is not permitted.

Discoveries of drugs have increased: In 116 cases a total amount of 4.59 kg was seized. Traders are increasingly buying antique goods in the GDR at very low prices.

Concerning goods, the illegal import concentrates on jeans, sweaters, jackets, and costume jewelry; illegal exports concentrate on shoes, children's clothes, underwear, meat, sausages, and spices. In March 2.2 tonnes of meat and sausages and 1.1 tonnes of spices were seized.

Police To Be Retrained for All-German Force

LD1604072290 Hamburg DPA in German 0633 GMT 16 Apr 90

[Text] Cologne (DPA)—All GDR People's Police officers who wish to remain in the police service in a united Germany will have to be "retrained," according to the Federal German Police trade union (GDP). GDP Chairman Hermann Lutz said in an interview with the daily newspaper "EXPRESS," which appears in Cologne, (tomorrow's edition) [April 17] that the GDR policemen not only would have to learn rules and regulations that were new to them, but above all to learn "that in a democratic state a policeman distinguishes himself by the strength of his words, not by the strength of his truncheon."

According to the trade union boss, not all of the 120,000 GDR People's Police officers will be able to be taken on into an all-German police service in the course of German unity. At present, the GDR police were also doing duties of the traffic authorities, the judicial authorities, and the fire service. According to Lutz, these areas "will be excluded from the police service so that in the final analysis about 70,000 police officers on present-day GDR territory will remain in the service."

The interview was prereleased to DPA by the newspaper.

Horn Views Current International Issues

LD1504093890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0630 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] Some Italian newspapers wrote during the week that East Europe is threatened by a one-sided German orientation. Jozsef Cs. Szabo went to see Foreign Minister Gyula Horn to discuss this and other matters.

[Begin recording] [Szabo] The possibility of German orientation in East Europe?

[Horn] In the case of Hungary, I believe, this is a particularly interesting question, since, if I remember correctly, during the search for an economic path in the 70's, the economic importance of the German connection increased for us substantially. This was further strengthened by the political development in the middle of the 80's, if I remember well, when we were quite active in our contacts with the countries of West Europe. To this we must add geographical and historical factors, and also that among the West countries, even including the United States, only West Germany had "ostpolitik," that is, a policy toward the East.

[Szabo] Would speeding up the unification of Germany not raise the question of what happens if the Soviet Union, which until now has had a decisive influence, is pushed to the periphery of Europe and became only one of the factors influencing European politics. Then would a power vacuum be created here, which the unified Germany could fill?

[Horn] I start from the premise that the Soviet Union will not be pushed to the periphery, neither in Europe, nor in the world. Concerning the Germans, in my judgment, everyone who suggests that Hungary would exclusively orientate toward the GDR, or later a united Germany, or toward the Soviet Union is exaggerating. There is no question of one-sidedness. For us, contacts are equally important, for example, with Italy, which is developing rapidly and has great economic potentials, or with the smaller European countries, but I would also include France and the United Kingdom, though I am a bit more cautious about the last two. Because it was my experience that while we had no problems with these countries in the political sense, apart from sympathy, we had no significant economic support from them for the transformation process. And last, but not least, we naturally have to take into account the German factor, since after unification, Germany will become even more the decisive economic power in Europe. So it is obvious that for a small country like ours we have to take them into serious consideration, but at the same time we must establish the link with the future Germany in such a way as not to damage our relations with other countries.

[Szabo] The bilateral contacts between the countries in East and Central Europe nowadays are seriously disturbed by the problems of national minorities, at the same time there are certain attempts towards regional groupings. Is there a self-organizational potential which could provide a counterforce to fill this certain vacuum, or perhaps act as counterbalance to the German influence?

[Horn] In my view, a small, open country like ours must stand on several legs. We must take advantage of every opportunity which assists the assimilation of the country into a civilized Europe. Therefore, I judge that, on the one side the joining of some countries here, like, for example the Alp-Adria exchange between four countries, which Czechoslovakia will also probably join, can be fitted well into the total European process.

[Szabo] I have noticed, in connection with the Bratislava meeting, PRAVDA this week wrote about the danger of the formation of some kind of opposition block.

[Horn] The Bratislava meeting did not cause much pleasure to any of us. Not so much because of the organizational and other problems of muddle, but because even to myself I could not clearly explain why exactly we got together. I agree that the countries of Central Europe must keep together, I agree to close consultations, even closer cooperation, but I find it difficult to explain that we should take such hard steps—and this was suggested by some in Bratislava—which could cause serious conflicts in this region of Europe. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Meets USSR's Vorontsov

LD1304164290 Budapest MTI in English 1216 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 13 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn met Yuriy Vorontsov, first deputy of the Soviet foreign minister, in Budapest on Friday.

The Soviet politician headed a delegation to the consultation the foreign ministers of the Rio Group (consisting of seven Latin American countries and seven Central and East European states held in Budapest.

Szuros Receives British Ambassador to Hungary

LD1304204690 Budapest MTI in English 1409 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 13 (MTI)—Matyas Szuros, interim president of the Republic of Hungary, met John Allan Birch, ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Hungary, on Friday, at the request of the diplomat.

The sides exchanged views on the possibilities of developing bilateral relations.

Foreign Minister Meets Mexican Counterpart

LD1304215390 Budapest MTI in English 1718 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 13 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn and his Mexican counterpart Fernando Solana Morales—in Hungary as a member of

the Rio Group's delegation—reached agreement on Friday on easing official visa regulations between Hungary and Mexico.

The two ministers signed a protocol on cancelling diplomatic and service visas. Mr Horn proposed that the compulsory visa system should be eliminated fully, also in tourism, in the near future.

The heads of the Hungarian and Mexican diplomacy agreed that there had been and were not any controversial political issues or conflicts in bilateral relations. Therefore, both sides would call for the development of economic and trade relations, all the more so as cooperation in this field lagged far behind that allowed by the economic possibilities in the two countries.

The two ministers thought further high level meetings were required to lay the foundations for large-scale economic relations.

The Mexican president's visit scheduled for next year was considered an important move in bilateral contacts. The date of his visit should coincide with that of signing several bilateral agreements.

After his talks with the Hungarian foreign minister, Fernando Solano Morales was also received by interim president of the Republic Matyas Szuros. The Mexican foreign minister reiterated that the visit by the Mexican president would open a new chapter in bilateral links. He added that economic cooperation would be assisted in the near future by a market economy taking shape in Hungary.

The Mexican foreign minister cited the opening of a bureau by a Mexican bank in Budapest as the sign of more vivid economic links between the two countries.

He spoke positively of Hungary's affiliation to the European reconstruction and development bank. He was of the opinion that as a result of the affiliation, Mexico, as member of the company, could play a major role in Hungarian economic life.

Antall, Poszgay Address Future Government Policy

LD1404173590 Budapest MTI in English 1530 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Vienna, April 14 (MTI)—Jozsef Antall thinks that a slow recovery may become perceptible in the Hungarian economy within two or three years. It is to be hoped that Hungary will join the Common Market between 1992 and 1995, and catch up at least with the average European level within a decade. This opinion of the president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum and prospective prime minister was carried by the Saturday issue of the Vienna daily "KURIER".

The same issue published an interview also with Imre Pozsgay, minister of state and member of the Hungarian Socialist Party [HSP—MSZP] presidium.

Speaking on Hungary's participation in the European integration, Mr Antall had the following to say:

"Our fundamental objectives are joining the European communities, setting up close relations with the EFTA, becoming members of the Council of Europe, but also having close links with North America. For to us, the European unity also embraces the Atlantic ideas, which means the presence of the USA and Canada.

We are also interested in the Japanese endevours to set up a base in Central and Eastern Europe as a sort of anteroom to a united Europe. I think the competition between Japan, America and Western Europe may come very useful to the region."

Jozsef Antall said that the German unification and the historical settlement with Poland—modelled on the German-French reconciliation—should take place hand in hand. Not only should the existing borders be preserved in the process, but also Germany's NATO membership.

Then, Mr Antall spoke about the future orientation of Hungary's foreign policy. He said as Warsaw Treaty members states had taken a new direction, future negotiations should thoroughly revalue the alliance system. This should cover the question of withdrawal and neutrality in the framework of a new European security system, which would also involve giving a totally new interpretation to neutrality.

A genuinely democratized Soviet Union would be one of Hungary's friends. Of course with political or economic dependence out of the question and to be replaced by profitable cooperation.

"It is certainly in the interest of Hungary that Gorbachev should succeed, which he could achieve perhaps by transforming his country into an 'Eastern Commonwealth'."

"Hungary will be able to set up friendly relations with only those of her neighbours who respect the rights of Hungarian minorities. In turn, Hungary is also obliged by the Helsinki agreement relating to the unchangeability of borders. But it is also obvious that regardless of the citizenship of the Hungarians living beyond the borders of the country. There is only one Hungarian nation," said the HDF [MDF] president.

In his statement, Imre Pozsgay said the Hungarian people had never really accepted the communist system, but at most tolerated it during the period of liberalization. But the economic crisis in the eighties intensified social tensions to the point that it was possible for the 1956 uprising to happen again.

"Two or three years ago, me and my associates set ourselves the task of destroying the power of the state party. This process has now ended. And I regard this as one of my personal achievements. Despite the disappointment I had to shoulder as a candidate to state presidency," said the socialist politician.

Mr. Pozsgay said it was phony and unfair that the bourgeois parties would bracket reformers with orthodox communists. He said that the 531,000 votes won by the HSP at the elections provided a source of strength and legitimacy to the party in its effort to get rid of the heavy weight it had carried and turn in the direction of the future.

Mr Pozsgay said what he was worried about was not the fact that soon a conservative-bougeois government would get in the government, but whether the new cabinet would be strong enough to take the long-awaited decisions, since too many compromises would make it all the more difficult to overcome the crisis.

"The 33 Hungarian socialist party members of parliament wish to play the role of a constructive opposition force and won't be afraid of supporting government decisions that promise to be good," said Mr Pozsgay in his statement to "KURIER".

MDF's Antall on Warsaw Pact, Germany

AU1504191890 Vienna KURIER in German 14 Apr 90 p 5

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Democratic Forum Chairman Jozsef Antall by Georg Berenyi; place and date not given: "Hungary's Path Toward Europe Must Lead Through Austria!"]

[Text] Jozsef Antall said

—on his feelings after the election victory: "I am overjoyed, yet at the same time I am deeply worried. The people gave us their support. Now we must prove that we have deserve it, which will require all our energy."

—on the first great challenges the new Hungarian democracy is facing: "Within a short time we must create a new constitution, an autonomy law as the basis for early local elections, and all institutions of a free market economy. Only then can we finally find out what branches of the Hungarian economy are absolutely unprofitable and what branches are unprofitable only because of the completely nonsensical price system."

—on the future of the Hungarian economy: "A gradual economic recovery might be noticeable within two or three years. I hope that Hungary will join the EC between 1992 and 1995. Within one decade our country might at least reach the average European level."

—on the roots of Hungarian democracy: "The statement that there is hardly any democratic tradition in our country has never been anything but a pretext to justify totalitarian regimes. The constitutional idea has existed here since the Middle Ages. With the emergence of Bourgeois ideas in the 19th century, Hungary even became the last bulwark of European parliamentarism in the East. Since then this country has never had anything to do with inhumanity or despotism—at least not voluntarily.

—on Hungary's future participation in the process of European integration: "Our fundamental goals are EC membership, close contacts with EFTA, membership in the Council of Europe—but also close ties with North America. After all, we believe that European unity also includes the Atlantic idea, that is to say the presence of the United States and Canada. We even attach great importance to the Japanese efforts to establish a basis in Central and East Europe—a sort of antechamber to the united Europe. I think that particularly the competition between Japan, America, and Europe can be of great advantage for this region. By the way, we owe 40 percent of our national debt to the Japanese...."

—on German reunification: "It should be linked with a historic conciliation with Poland. I am thinking of the model of the conciliation between Germany and France. However, the existing borders should be maintained—and also Germany's membership in NATO. Against neutralizing Germany stands the experience that a country that does not belong to any alliance may always constitute a danger. This is one of the reasons why I regard the presence of the Americans in Europe as reassuring."

—on the new orientation of Hungarian foreign policy: "Since the member countries of the Warsaw Pact have embarked on a new course, it must be newly assessed in future negotiations. In the light of a new all-European security system, which must be created, the question of leaving this pact or neutrality must be examined, and the concept of neutrality must be completely reinterpreted."

—on Hungary's future relations with the USSR: "A thoroughly democratized USSR will be among our friends—of course without any political or economic dependence, but on the basis of constructive cooperation. I am also thinking of joint ventures of Hungarian, Soviet, and Western companies. Gorbachev's success—maybe on the basis of reshaping his country to an 'Eastern Commonwealth'—is certainly in our interest."

—on Hungary's relations with its other neighbors: "We will have friendly relations only with states that respect the human rights of the Hungarian minority. Of course we feel bound by the Helsinki Agreement on the unchangeability of the borders. Nevertheless, one must point out one thing, namely that in our country each family has ties with Hungarians that live outside our borders. Irrespective of nationality, we can therefore only speak of one Hungarian nation."

—on Austria: "Historically, life was equally difficult for us with or without Austria. On the one hand there were 400 years of struggle for freedom and independence against the absolutism of the Hapsburgs, on the other one the close ties between the revolutionary

youths of Vienna and Budapest in 1848, and the economic and intellectual prosperity in the decades following the conciliation of 1867. Of course we do not identify the Austrian people with the absolutism of its former masters, but you should also show some understanding for our mentality and our fate, which has sometimes placed us at the other side of the barricades. I myself represent all this contradiction of the relations between Austria and Hungary: My father's ancestors were involved in the struggle for freedom, those of my mother come from Tirol and Hollabrunn...."

—on the political future of the Danube area: "In its days, the monarchy certainly played a stabilizing role, which preserved peace among the many peoples in the region. Our great statesman Lajos Kossuth already saw an alternative to this in the Danube Confederation. Today the peoples in the area of the Danube also have common interests. I think that we might nicely cooperate on the regional level of 'Alpine-Adriatic' integration. There can be no doubt that Hungary's path toward West Europe must lead through Austria—in a political, economic, and intellectual sense."

Views EC

LD1604004190 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Interview with Democratic Forum Chairman Jozsef Antall by Laszlo Muranyi on the "View" program on 15 April; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Muranyi] Mr. President, do you agree with me today, on Easter Sunday, that a week ago in Hungary, a political Palm Sunday took place? Though it is certain that a very difficult period is to begin, one of the most important factors, belonging to the European Community, undoubtedly became a more achievable target. Could this facilitate the difficult work of the coming years?

[Antall] One might say that the Hungarian Democratic Forum has maintained close relations with the European Community right from the start. When last July, following the visit of President Bush to Budapest, the group of Seven held a summit in Paris and, at the initiative of Chancellor Kohl, put the Common Market in charge of organizing support for Poland and Hungary, I was in Brussels at the time, where I gave a lecture to the Christian Democratic People's Party Faction of the European Parliament; thus I had the opportunity to get in touch with numerous leaders of the Common Market Executive Committee immediately, and we negotiated for several days. So, as early as last July, on behalf of the Democratic Forum, I could hand over a memorandum in Brussels which led to the possibility of continuing our talks in Budapest with Mr. Delors and others.

As a result of this, the Hungarian Democratic Forum, has kept, one might say, in weekly touch with the Common Market, so our links are very close with the European unity organizations. I, myself, am a vice-chairman of the European Movement, which is under the chairmanship of Giscard d'Estaing.

I have just this morning received a letter from Mrs. Thatcher, in which she pledged the support of Great Britain, emphasizing that it is not only ideological but also practical support.

Chancellor Kohl has sent a long letter, and he even honored me with a telephone call which lasted an hour. We talked partly about the elections and partly about the East Central European issues. But I could go on with the list.

Of course, this is not important from the point of view of individual vanity or some sort of prestige; it is simply vital for Hungary to coordinate her efforts to meet the support of the leading countries of the world and of their governments and party politicians. In connection with this, several government statements were issued in support of the would-be Hungarian Government. Lately, Eagleburger, U.S. deputy secretary of state, emphasized this separately. He carried out talks with us, the Democratic Forum, both in America and in Budapest.

There are some who criticize us, and others who, perhaps, would have been happier if another party had won, but with the Government of the United States, and similarly other West European governments, we can confidently say that they treated the Democratic Forum in a special way, which is illustrated by the fact that I was received at the highest level in the past two to three months.

[Muranyi] It is the view of many that the responsibility of the press and the parties should be clarified before forming the government by all means. What is your opinion on this matter?

[Antall] It is also a vital question of the transition that there should be a free press in Hungary, and this free press, naturally, must write and do everything in order that human freedom should really be enforced here, just the same as political freedom in general. At the same time, it is obvious that no witch-hunt should gain ground in mass information either, but on the basis of professional suitability and good capabilities, the television and radio must be reorganized; at least, according to my information, Hungarian mass media is not operating amidst the best financial conditions and with the best potential. Such a transformation, as well as the possibility of such a transformation, necessarily brings personnel changes also. [passage omitted]

I think that if the rountable talks made any big mistake, it was not completing the information and press law. Because very many questions which are disputed today would have been solved by now, if the bill on the press had been prepared. Unfortunately, we ran out of strength, and by the time this had been put on the agenda, the roundtable talks broke up. [passage omitted]

Democratic Forum Announces Policy Aims

TV Policy

LD1404203290 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] The deputy chairman of the Hungarian Democratic Forum confirmed that in the opinion of his party, parliament should direct the press and media. In an interview, Ferenc Kulin urged legal guarantees to ensure that in the future there should be no outside interference in the work of the various bodies.

[Begin Kulin recording] We regard Channel 1 not as a government channel, but as a national television, and party points of views must be excluded from national television. For such as medium as television it is essential to establish supervision by a parliamentary committee, and such a parliamentary committee, whatever its composition, must rise above any forms of party interests, if necessary above the interests of the governing party as well. I am assuming that such a committee will elect or nominate an independent chairman, who will have a personal responsibility for the deciding on television personnel and also for program policy. I mean independence, not in the sense of belonging to a party or not, but there should be a common agreement to decide that X or Y is a person of such standing that there can be no doubts about his or her independence.

A proportional part of each television program will be edited by the opposition parties, or be under their influence. It is possible that there will be on television a number of programs which the government will want to try to influence. I am assuming that if somebody is representing views contrary to the aims of the government, such person will not get onto these programs.

A news bulletin cannot be the mouthpiece of a governing party, but must give voice to the views of those opposed to the government. The principle of proportionality must be applied. This must be kept in mind. [end recording]

Defense Portfolio

LD1404202590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Excerpt] The Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] considers the Defense Ministry to be a portfolio of prominent strategic significance. The MDF wishes to deal with the matter of defense and the Hungarian Army in accordance with this precept, as Chairman Jozsef Antall has said several times before. [passage omitted]

MDF Talks To Create Governing Coalition

LD1304133390 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Andras Kerekes reports from the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] international news conference on the MDF national rally, which began yesterday.

[Kerekes] [passage omitted] The MDF is negotiating primarily with the Independent Smallholders' Party [FKGP] and the Christian Democratic People's Party about the creation of a governing coalition. It still rules out bargaining with either the Alliance of Free Democrats or the Hungarian Socialist Party. This was confirmed at today's news conference.

This formulation implies what then was questioned by journalists, too, as to whether independent personalities or representatives of the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ] could be considered. Deputy Chairman Ference Kulin also referred to the fact that good relations had developed with the latter in many places at a grassroots level, but there was no such close link between the national leadership of the two parties. However, the MDF expects that the very well-trained FIDESZ experts will take a share in the work of the administration, even if not on the highest level.

The MDF would demand [igenyt tartana] the Foreign, Interior, and Finance Ministries, an economic ministry, and the sphere of culture. They put it that they "would like to obtain these portfolios." In response to a question, it was discussed that they did not consider the Defense Ministry a strategic portfolio because in this regard it is rather the parliament and the president of the Republic that had competence in this area.

The issue of the press and the national media was discussed at today's press conference, but it was not referred to yesterday [at the MDF national rally]. There is no MDF stance ready yet on whether there is a need for some kind of supervision. However, Sandor K. Keresztes has said that there is a need for such a thing under any circumstances. This is the Western practice, too. However, it can only be a parliamentary supervision. In response to a question, it has been emphasized that the statement by Istvan Czurka, according to which there is no need for live television, and naturally, radio broadcast of the future parliament session, was the view of a single man, one opinion. The MDF has not decided in this issue either.

The stance regarding the FKGP was very interesting. The MDF and FKGP views have come nearer to each other, if for nothing else but for the fact that—it was emphasized here at the MDF news conference—instead of the reconstruction of the 1947 land ownership, the FKGP means a return to the state of affairs that existed prior to the dictatorship of 1947.

Briefly, about some economic issues: Istvan Bethlen, financial expert, said that convertibility could be

achieved within a relatively short time, but three years is the shortest possible period. West Germany, at the time, needed 10 years. Well, Hungary will not need such a period.

Coalition Talks Begin

LD1304200890 Budapest MTI in English 1410 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 13 (MTI)—The Hungarian Democratic Forum (HDF) and the Christian Democratic People's Party (CDPP) launched coalition talks on Friday. CDPP deputy president Tibor Fuzessy told MTI.

Gyorgy Csoti, head of the HDF office, confirmed the news and added that his party had not set any precondition for starting the negotiations.

Progress of Coalition Talks

LD1204200990 Budapest MTI in English 1749 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 13 (MTI)—The presidium of the Hungarian Democratic Forum has made the following statement in order to avoid misunderstandings:

The HDF is engaged in coalition talks on the composition of the new government. No preliminary agreement has been reached so far on the distribution of ministries between the parties.

Any communication on the order of importance of the ministries or names of persons is nothing but guesswork.

Party Delegates Discuss Assembly Preparations

LD1304084890 Budapest MTI in English 0643 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 13 (MTI)—Expert level discussions were held on Thursday by representatives of the parties having gained seats in the new parliament regarding the preparation for the next National Assembly. Consultations focused on the order, the agenda and most important tasks ahead.

It became apparent during the talks that further inter-party tallying of views and agreements will be necessary on the majority of the issues, owing to the lack of basic information and the absence of appropriate authorisations.

For the time being, an agreement was reached not to transfer the holy crown to the parliament building for the founding session of the new parliament, albeit necessary security measures could be provided.

Participants of the consultations defined the place to be occupied by the various parties in the session room. Experts of the National Assembly put forward proposals regarding the "seating order", bearing in mind political deliberations and technical facilities. In conclusion, an agreement was reached that representatives of the governing party and their coalition partners will be allocated seats to the right of the speaker's pulpit and the left side is to be taken by the opposition party. The working out of a detailed seating order is subject to an agreement among the parties.

'Suitable Results' Foreseen for Coalition Talks

LD1504172190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Our correspondent in Debrecen, Ernoe Kispeter, presented a domestic political sensation in the Evening Chronicle [name of this bulletin], revealing that the Democratic Forum and the Smallholders' Party have already started coalition negotiations. What is more, he can also give us several new items of information about the events which took place within the Smallholders' Party.

[Kispeter] At one of the latest meetings of leadership of the Independent Smallholders' Party, the right of the national leadership to carry out the coalition negotiations was withdrawn.

A committee of three members was appointed for this purpose, in the person of Zsolt Rajkai, chairman of Borsod County; Istvan Babos, Secretary of Bekes County; and Sandor Cseh, Secretary of Hajdu Bihar County.

Real negotiations between the MDF and the Smallholders' Party started on 13 April and they are to to be continued on 17 April, both parties would like to close the talks already at the end of next week.

The Smallholders feel that the negotiations are bringing suitable results for both parties. Besides the agricultural portfolio, the state ministerial [portfolio] and the environmental protection portfolio, they would be satisfied if they obtained the posts of state secretary of trade and state secretary of health as well.

Talks are also caried out that one of the portfolios of internal, foreign, and defense ministries—probably that of defense—and also the appointment of state secretary of justice would be given to politicians of the Smallholders Party.

Coalition Talks Limited to Land Law at Present

LD1504213190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] In the Evening Chronicle program we carried a report that a three-member committee of Smallholders Party county leaders was chosen to carry out coalition talks with the MDF [Hungarian Democratic Forum], including discussing ministerial portfolios. The case has now taken a 180-degree turn. Peter Zentai asked Vilmos Bereczki, spokesman of the Smallholders' Party, if it is true that the right to conduct coalition negotiations was withdrawn from the national leadership.

[Begin recording] [Bereczki] No, not at all. The Independent Smallholders' Party national board is to meet on 28 April, and this is what the party is preparing for at the moment. Naturally, simultaneously with this, coordinating talks are under way with the Democratic Forum [MDF].

[Zentai] But aren't these coalition negotiations?

[Bereczki] For the time being, the two parties are [word indistinct] the land law and they are trying to come to an agreement on this. In these talks, the the county leaders, mentioned on the news are participating so that the counties are also involved in this important question as experts.

[Zentai] So in contradiction to the earlier report, will the presidium conduct the future coalition negotiations?

[Bereczki] Naturally, it will be the presidium; perhaps it will be more than that. But coalition negotiations can only commence when the two parties agree on the land law.

[Zentai] It was also said in the report that there are specific ministerial portfolios which the Smallholders Party claims. The agricultural and food industrial portfolios were mentioned, as well as several state secretarial posts, for example the post of the foreign affairs state secretary. There is even talk of the post of defense minister itself. What is the truth in this?

[Bereczki] No negotiations have been carried out regarding specific ministries and posts. These can only be carried out when the two parties come to an agreement on the question of the land law. In this matter, there was a coordinating talk last Friday [13 April] and this is to be continued Wednesday. All coalition negotiations depend on this vital question. [end recording]

Incidentally, what was said by Vilmos Bereczki was also confirmed by Sandor Cseh, the Hajdu County Secretary of the Smallholders' Party.

Socialist Party To Hold Congress 26 May

LD1404171590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1600 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] The presidium of the Hungarian Socialist Party [HSP—MSZP] held a closed meeting today. The HSP will be holding its congress at the end of next month—to be more precise, on 26 and 27 May. At the meeting of the national presidium today it was decided that the congress will evaluate the work of the elected bodies; namely, the activities of the presidium, the chairman's council, the committee of arbitration, and the financial committee. The congress will decide the fundamental political direction of the HSP and reelect the leading bodies. The presidium and the chairman's council are preparing recommendations concerning the character of the party, and these will be debated by the membership, and only after that will the document be presented to the congress. At today's meeting, the HSP national presidium is also considering issues relating to the party press and the financial situation of the party.

Anti-Magyar Article Published in Romania

LD1304221590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Another slanderous article appeared in the Romanian press, which deeply shocked the Magyar public opinion in Erdely [Transylvania]. Otto Oltvanyi reports from Bucharest.

[Oltvanyi] Further pressures are being placed on the Democratic Association of Magyars in Romania [RMDSZ]. Recently it was the National Front for Salvation which gave the opportunity for attacks on the Magyars in Romania. In the front's main paper, a chauvinistic, anti-Magyar article was published about the minorities, which shattered the Magyar population. This forced the national organization of the RDMSZ to issue a statement about this event; the content of the document was made public in Bucharest tonight. In this, the organization called on the National Front for Salvation, led by Ion Iliescu, in the strongest terms to dissociate itself from the anti-Magyar article.

What did this article actually contain? Among other things, that for everything that happened in Romania during the past 45 years you should blame not the Romanian Communists but the Magyars, because many of them wormed their way into the ruling circles of the party. The article said Romania could have claim for the revision of borders, since 4.5 million Romanians live outside the borders of the country. About teaching in the mother tongue, the article says Magyar should be taught only in primary schools, in secondary schools, and at universities; young people should be learning only in Romanian.

The statement that the Szeklers are not Magyar is both ridiculous and offensive, with the suggestion that they should have separate schools where Szekler language is taught. The article suggested that it should be made compulsory for the organizations of national minorities to express their loyalty in a formal, ceremonial declaration of faith towards the Romanian people. The article also made reference to the period of the Horthy occupation and is demanding from the Hungarian Government payment of compensation to Romania for the losses they suffered. With reference to the Marosvasarhely [Tirgu Mures] events, the article made the statement that the Magyars can even be accused of genocide.

MTI Receives Anti-Magyar 'Manifesto'

LD1404184190 Budapest MTI in English 1720 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Washington, April 14 (MTI)—'Our final goal is great Romania, in which we will not tolerate any alien elements... we must get rid of the enemy's most talented

leaders and .. we should concentrate our efforts on Tirgu Mures.' reads part of the confidential manifesto drafted by the Vatra Romaneasca, the extreme Romanian nationalist organization. The document was given to MTI'S Washington correspondent by a reliable American source.

The document which carries the stamp of the Vatra's national centre Tirgu Mures and an illegible signature is dated February 20, and consequently proves that the brutal attack by the pitiless mob against the Hungarian community in Tirgu Mures was consciously prepared.

'As the town has a half-Hungarian half-Romanian population, Vatra Romaneasca will centre its activity in Tirgu Mures until the Romanian national spirit gets enough stamina to reject every demand of the Hungarians... The main objective is to use various forms of intimidation and get rid of the enemy's most talented leaders or force them into insignificant positions.' reads the manifesto.

It will be remembered that Andras Suto, the renowned representative of the Hungarian community in Transylvania, was the most serious victim of the Vatra's brutalities in Tirgu Mures.

'Great Romania will have no place for aliens, such as Hungarians, Gypsies, Germans, Tatars or Jews. The time has come to settle the minority question once and for all.' reads the manifesto, which says that the Vatra should remain politically neutral so that it could enjoy the support of every party as well as people not interested in politics.

According to the confidential document, the financial resources of the movement are 'provided by influential Romanian politicians and secret foreign organizations, mainly in France and Canada.'

Government Statement on Soviet Katyn Admission

LD1304182990 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Statement by government spokesman—live or recorded; read by announcer]

[Text] The long-awaited admission by the USSR of its responsibility for the crime committed against Polish officers in Katyn has arrived. This event, which took place 50 years ago in the Smolensk woods, has weighed particularly painfully on relations between our two nations. The government of Premier Mazowiecki was aware from the beginning that forming a relationship with the USSR on the basis of partnership and true friendship would not be possible unless this matter was cleared up. Reconciliation can only be built on truth. Recognizing the significance of the official statement of the Soviet side, we await the explanation of all the blank spots in our common history of which the symbol, for us Poles, is the Katyn crime.

Walesa Statement

LD1304183890 Warsaw PAP in English 1708 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Gdansk, April 13—The Solidarity leader's press office conveyed to PAP today the following statement by Lech Walesa:

"The Soviet Union's admission of responsibility for murdering 15,000 Polish officers is a long-awaited by Polish society act of moral justice. The following unsettled questions remain problems of great social weight:

—Punishment of those responsible for the crime of genocide.
—Material compensation for families and those close to the victims.
—Free access to places within the territory of the USSR which are important to Poles' emotions.

I trust that these problems will be adequately appreciated by respective Soviet authorities."

Sejm Speaker Statement

LD1304231290 Warsaw PAP in English 2210 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 13—Following are some of reactions to the Soviet statement on Katyn crime published by TASS press agency:

Sejm (lower house) Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz:

This [is] an actual and formal recognition by the USSR of the truth known in Poland since long ago. I think that this act of courage will positively influence the Polish-Soviet relations which has always been overshadowed by Katyn.

Chairman of the Main committee for remembrance of Stalinism [as received] victims in Poland Leszek Skonka:

We receive with satisfaction the steps of the Soviet authorities aimed at unveiling the painful truth about the crimes and wrongs committed on the Polish state and nation. We hope that the truth will be uncovered to the end and the victims of Stalinism will be morally and materially compensated.

Warsaw's suffragan Bishop Wladyslaw Miziolek:

This is a statement of great significance. In the changes which are currently taking place it puts the Polish-Soviet relations on a new fundament—on the fundament of truth.

Representative of the authorities of the Federation of Katyn Families, member of the Independent Historical Committee for the Katyn Crime Research Bozena Lojek:

The statement, being acknowledgement of guilt gives us moral satisfaction. However, we wish that those responsible for that crime, which is undoubtedly a homicide, were punished.

Colonel Marek Tarczynski from the Military Institute of History:

The statement is an act of the Soviet state's acknowledgement of the Katyn crime and this causes that the day of its publishing has a great significance in the history of the Katyn question and, I think, also in the history of the Polish-Soviet relations. Yet. The contents of this statement is in many places not fully true. It is evasive and trying to find a justification for the half-a-century-old falseness and silence.

Vice-president of the Christian national Party Deputy Marek Jurek:

The announcement of the truth on Katyn was necessary. This crime, like the other ones show that Communism was an untresspassable horizon of the modern barbarity. I hope that the truth on Katyn will contribute to improving the relations between the nations of Russian and Poland and to overcoming the past which was imposed on us.

President of the Union of Deportees to Siberia Senator Ryszard Reiff:

This unbelievable crime committed on the Polish officers. Defenceless POWs has to be uncovered. Owing to this a long step was made on the road to the building the Polish-Soviet relationsd

Katyn Documents Include Names

LD1304223490 Warsaw PAP in English 2040 GMT 13 Apr 90

[By PAP reporters Piotr Jazwinski and Jerzy Malczyk]

[Text] Moscow, April 13—Asked to comment on documents on the Katyn crime, conveyed to President

Jaruzelski by Mikhail Gorbachev, co-chairman of the former Polish-Soviet Commission of Historians Jarema Maciszewski said:

The documents show clearly and unequivocally that the NVKD [People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs] bears full responsibility for the crime. For us, the case was obvious for a long time. We had taken such a position but did not possess the sources of Soviet origin.

Today, we are in the possession of such sources. For sure they are not complete. I know that Soviet researchers and archivist continue searching.

Owing to these source materials we have at our disposal a list of close to 15 thousand Poles who died in Spring 1940. The list embraces 15 thousand names. Just the number which according to our estimations were in the camps in Kozelks, Starobelks and Ostashkov, excluding 448 officers who were saved.

This most tragic one from tragic issues, which hang heavy and which still are an open wound, has today the chance to scar over. What is left at the moment is to complete our knowledge and the case will never again be the subject of manipulators, lies and propaganda, Maciszewski stressed.

'No Justification' for 'Falsehood'

LD1404213990 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2115 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Before we start discussing the events of the day, we would like to return to the tragic events of 50 years ago, the Katyn crime. Only after half a century did the Soviet side reveal the documents and admit that the murderers were the NKVD functionaries. One must say that there is no justification for this falsehood which went on for half a century.

The fact that only after half a century have the Soviet authorities decided to break their silence and to admit that the total responsibilty is on the Soviet side, is yet another proof of the horrific nature of the machinery of crimes and lies of the Stalinist totalitarian system and the proof of the difficulties on the road of perestroyka and glasnost. This issue was a burden on Polish-Soviet relations, and it was impossible to find the road to reconciliation without the Soviet Union providing an explanation of this period in the relations between our countries.

Let us say that this is just the beginning. There are many issues which have not been explained yet. The bodies of nearly 11,000 Polish officers have not yet been found. The Soviet archives should be opened in full in order to get to know the whole truth about those dark times.

CSFR Deputy Premier Calls Visit 'Informative'

LD1204202690 Prague CTK in English 1558 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw April 12 (CTK)—"My visit to Poland was informative. Its aim was to find out what the situation in Poland is like, to get acquainted with the course of reforms in the country, Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky told Czechoslovak newsmen here Thursday.

"Poland is resolved to continue the consistent path of reforms", Jan Carnogursky stressed.

Referring to political legislation, the deputy premier expressed his opinion that Czechoslovakia is farther than Poland in this field. "The fundamental political laws have been already passed in Czechoslovakia while in Poland they are still under discussion. On the other hand, as far as the economic laws are concerned Poland is ahead of Czechoslovakia on the path towards the market economy," he said.

"The Polish side seems to ascribe great significance to the renewal of local border traffic to enable the Polish believers to visit Czechoslovakia during the visit of Pope John Paul II on April 21-22. I think that Czechoslovakia should remove all bureaucratic obstacles in this connection as soon as possible", Jan Carnogursky underlined.

Meets Cardinal Glemp

LD1204203490 Prague CTK in English 1600 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw April 12 (CTK reporter)—Polish Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp received here today visiting Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky to brief him on the current situation in the Catholic Church in Poland and its activities in the country's changing conditions.

Jan Carnogursky appreciated the attitude of the Polish Catholic Church in the past 40 years, stressing that it helped maintain spiritual unity of the Polish nation and supported the opposition against the then non-democratic situation. He also thanked for the support the Polish Catholic Church has been granting to the Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia.

Meets Mazowiecki, Ends Visit

LD1204214790 Warsaw PAP in English 2040 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki received here today Vice Premier of Czechoslovakia Jan Carnogursky.

Before the meeting Mazowiecki told journalists: We are interested in the developments taking place in Czechoslovakia where preparations are under way for elections and this is very interesting to us. I think that also our experiences are interesting to Czechoslovakia. This is

true especially of our economic reform. It wil be also vital for us what methods will be used in Czechoslovakia to introduce market mechanisms to its economy.

The Czechoslovak guest was also received by Primate of Poland, Jozef Cardinal Glemp.

Speaking to newsmen about this meeting, Carnogursky said that he expressed deep admiration for the Catholic church in Poland for is attitude in the past decades. Such stand served to maintain unity not only among Catholics but of the entire Polish nation. I thanked the primate for assistance which the Polish Catholic Church extended to Catholics in Czechoslovakia. I also briefed him on preparations for the forthcoming visit of Pope John Paul II to Czechoslovakia, said Deputy Premier Carnogursky.

Next, the Czechoslovak vice premier took part in a meeting organized by the board and members of the Catholic Intelligentsia Club. The talks were attended by Deputy Speaker of the Senate Andrzej Wielowieyski.

The Czechoslovak guest aslo talked with representatives of the Cultural Association of Czechs and Slovaks in Poland. They briefed Carnogursky on their problems, including lack of financial means for their activities. Czechs and Slovaks living in Poland should have similar conditions to those which Poles have in Czechoslovakia, said association members.

In the afternoon, Jan Carnogurskiy left Poland. At the Warsaw Okecie Airport he was bidden farewell by minister Aleksander Paszynski.

Jaruzelski Congratulatory Cable to Mladenov

AU0604132090 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 4 Apr 90 p 7

[3 April telegram of congratulations from President Wojciech Jaruzelski to Bulgarian President Petur Mladenov]

[Text] To Petur Mladenov, chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in Sofia.

I offer you sincere congratulations and best wishes on being entrusted with the distinguished and responsible post of chairman of the republic by the National Assembly.

I believe that your election will enable you to exercise an even more effective influence on the successful development of the processes of reorganizing the socioeconomic life of friendly Bulgaria to the benefit of its people and international position.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you, Mr. Chairman, that it is Poland's sincere and firm intention to foster the best possible friendly relations with the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

I am sure that our personal contacts will be fruitful and useful.

I wish you every success and good health during this difficult and crucial time for your country.

Wojciech Jaruzelski, president of the Polish Republic.

Warsaw, 3 April 1990.

Jaruzelski on Success of USSR Visit

LD1404214390 Warsaw PAP in English 2035 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 14: I's were dotted in the matter of Katyn, said President Jaruzelski upon the conclusion of his four-day visit in the USSR, in Warsaw tonight. This is the admission who was the perpetrator of that criminal deed. Now, the point may only be to find the venue where, the inmates of the Ostashkov and Starobelsk rest. It goes now beyond any doubt they were killed and the then Soviet authorities, Stalin, Beriya and Merkulov are to blame. Mikhail Gorbachev gave me lots of materials and documents on this matter.

Asked about his assessment of the visit in the USSR, the president said it was rich in contents and emotions.

Speaking of his meeting with M. Gorbachev Jaruzelski called it a next step on the way to exchanges of views and full mutual understanding in all basic issues. M. Gorbachev discloses lots of friendliness to Poland, said the president.

Of big importance was the started Polish-Ukrainian dialogue, said Poland's president.

Planning Chief on Polish-Soviet Trade, Debt

LD0904212490 Warsaw PAP in English 2022 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 9—In his interview for PAP, Minister-Head of the Central Office of Planning Jerzy Osiatynski, who headed a Polish governmental delegation which recently held economic talks in Moscow, said in part:

"In their considerable part, the talks are an attempt at re-negotiating the old agreements. We think that these agreements, although signed by the Polish side, are not of equal-rights character.

"These are contracts on construction-assembly works and raw material investments conducted by Poland in the USSR. They were realised according to the Soviet cost calculations and underestimated internal prices, (?so according to our experts. Poland had to make additional layouts calculated at more than 3 billion roubles over many years which together with the interest closes at a sum of some 4.2 billion roubles.

"We expect taking account of these losses in mutual clearings as they stem from the introduction of a methodology of fixing prices on construction-assembly services within the frames of the CMEA countries which was profitable only for the USSR.

"The talks in Moscow focused on the matters connected with the planned switch in the trade with the USSR to settling accounts in convertible currencies according to the world prices.

"According to the Polish calculations, with the current structure of trade turnovers with the USSR—and this structure will not probably change in the next two-three years—the Polish side will bear considerable costs due to that switch, so will do the other CMEA countries.

"According to the Soviet experts, these costs will amount to some 1.2 billion transfer roubles per year and according to our calculations—even more. Thus we are looking for such solutions which would enable both side to switch to the clearings in convertible currencies, but which would depreciate the losses borne by Poland.

"A trade protocol signed last March provides for delivery of machines and equipment from Poland to the USSR worth only 1.6 billion transfer roubles, but both countries are keen on enlarging these deliveries.

"However, the Soviet side would like us to service our Soviet debt with the export surplus created this way. As concerns us, we think that this debt is compensated by our losses caused by the investment deliveries to the USSR realised according to the arrangement of the 61st session of the CMEA executive committee of 1973.

"We have proposed our Soviet partners to sign an additional protocol providing for 1 billion transfer roubles on condition of a commodity credit," Minister Osiatynski concluded.

Foreign Ministry 'Demarche' Over Silesian Event

LD1204123890 Warsaw PAP in English 1052 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 12—The Polish Foreign Ministry lodged a demarche with GDR Ambassador Juergen van Zwoll over reports on plans to organize a revisionist event of Silesians in Goerlitz on April 16. Chairman of the expelees union Herbert Hupka is to take part in the event.

Asking about more detailed explanations concerning the character of this event, representative of the Foreign Ministry also pointed to the necessity to strictly observe provisions of Article no. 2 of the Polish-GDR treaty on friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance of May 28, 1977.

In the treaty, both sides made a pledge to "strictly counteract signs of revanchism, revisionism and militarism as well as any attempts to violate international agreements signed to consolidate European security."

Swiecicki in Washington for Economic Talks

LD1304134490 Warsaw PAP in English 1023 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Washington, April 13—Last April 12 Lawrence Eagleburger, deputy U.S. secretary of state, promised Polish Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Marcin Swiecicki that the American side would spare no efforts to make the Polish-American 240-million dollar enterprise fund for the development of private sector in Poland start activity as soon as possible.

The sides also discussed the issue of high interest on American credits granted to entrepreneurs exporting goods to Poland. The obligation to deduct a sum totalling 50 percent of a credit for the reserve fund hampers the financing of exports to that country and, thereby, development of bilateral trade.

They also discussed help in training of managers.

Swiecicki attended a symposium organized here by the Chamber of Commerce of the USA and devoted to possibilities of trade and investment in Central and Eastern Europe.

He also held talks with J. Michael Farren, U.S. deputy secretary of commerce for relations with abroad, to discuss preparations for the announced session of the Polish-American economic commission and seminar for Polish businessmen in Warsaw in late May.

Soviet General: Forces Defending Soviet Interests

LD1304184590 Warsaw PAP in English 1702 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 13—"If there be an order, we soldiers, like in Afghanistan, will withdraw from here," said General Viktor Petrovich Dubinin, commander of the Northern Group of the Soviet Army stationed in Poland in a talk with journalists of the "Solidarnosc" weekly.

Dubinin, born in 1943, went through all levels of command. He is a graduate of the Academy of Armoured Forces and the Academy of the General Staff, and, as he himself stated, "fulfilled the internationalist duty in Afghanistan" between the years 1984 and 1987, where he was commander of the 40th Army. He took command of the Northern Group of the Soviet Army in Poland in July 1989. Since March 4 1990 he is a deputy of the Supreme Soviet. The following are some of his statements:

Task of the Northern Group

—Together with the Polish Army, The GDR People's Army, and the Western Group of the Soviet Army stationed in the GDR, we are defending the interests of the Soviet Union. The mentioned above Armed Forces represent an effective shield of the Warsaw Treaty, guarding peaceful work and development of Poland. Currently, the Northern Group, together with

the Polish Army has the task to defend Poland's Western Frontier. Those troops form the second line of defence and a reserve of the basic concentration of Soviet troops stationed in Germany.

Manpower and Equipment

—The Northern Group is composed of 58 thousand men, officers, and white and blue collar employees. Officers can live together with their families. There is about nine thousand women and children here. In tune with an agreement with the Polish Government, the size of manpower of our troops may reach 62 to 66 thousand men and officers. The troops are equipped with 605 tanks, 850 armoured and combat carriers, 450 guns and mortars. There are also 220 combat planes and 85 helicopters stationed in Poland. My country made an unilateral reduction in the armed forces by 500 thousand soldiers, in frames of which it withdrew over ten thousand soldiers from Poland. We plan to decrease the number of soldiers of the Northern Group by 5.5 to 6 thousand by the end of the year to have about 50 thousand soldiers. We also intend to withdraw to the Soviet Union military equipment and ammunition stocks.

New Situation in Europe

—The changing situation in Eastern Europe caused that our government undertook the decision to withdraw Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Soviet troops are to be withdrawn from Warsaw Treaty states by 1995, while all military bases outside the Soviet Union will be liquidated to the year 2000.
—Unified Germany causes concern not only in Europe but also in the United States. It is well-known who started the First and Second World Wars. People are afraid of the 4th Reich, for older ones will remember the 3rd Reich. We are of the opinion that United Germany should find itself under international supervision. We must be vigilant, for one can expect an aggression first of all against Poland. This is the reason for which Soviet troops, even after the creation of one German state, should not, temporarily, leave the GDR, although their number will be reduced. These are no longer occupying forces as in the past—as an element of the Warsaw Treaty, they have a peaceful mission to fulfil, they are a stabilizing factor maintaining peace in Europe.

Attitude Towards Perestroyka

—Our country's Armed Forces do not need perestroyka. Perestroyka is needed only in mutual relations between people, between commanders and soliders. There is a need for more democracy, openness, that is why we are staging meetings which pass opinions on officers' promotions, undertake various cadre decisions and deal with every-day problems.
—The manpower of our forces has been reduced by 500 thousand. Currently, our Army has 3 million 997 thousand soldiers. Furthere reduction of 240-250 thousand soldiers is planned for this year in result of which the Army will count about 3 million 750 thousand. The American Army is also large. It has 3 million 229 thousand soldiers.
—The role of the Communist Party was and will remain to be the most important in the Armed Forces. Up to now, no other party has been registered. All progressive initiatives came from the party: Improvement in the level of training, keeping order and discipline. That is how it was and how it is now and I hope it will continue to be like that in the Armed Forces.

Relations With Poles

—They are very good. In all places where our troops are stationed, relations with authorities and local residents are very good. Many of us have Polish friends. We would like to have the best possible contacts with the local population with Polish soldiers. That is why we regret that currently there are no posters devoted to Polish-Soviet friendship in day-rooms of the Polish units. In our day-rooms there is always a Polish flag.
—We noticed recently that Polish officers are afraid to meet with us, as if they were afraid about their careers. We want to get to know each other better, for we hope that then such demonstrations as that staged by drunken youth on the day of our Army, on February 22, when they screamed "Soviets go home," and "tanks to the Volga River" will not take place. I stood in front of them and I said: "We are soldiers. Like in Afghanistan, if an order comes, than we will withdraw from here."

Deputy Defense Minister on New Duties

LD0404211190 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1515 GMT 4 Apr 90

[Interview with Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Sejm deputy and deputy national defense minister, by unidentified program announcer on the "Tele-Express" news magazine program; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] We have as our guest Mr. Janusz Onyszkiewicz, Sejm deputy and deputy national defense minister. How do you, as a former alleged CIA spy and former extremist, feel in the role of deputy national defense minister?

[Onyszkiewicz] I was labeled an extremist, rather than being one by conviction, for my activity. As for my spying for the CIA, a lot could be said about that here. Anyhow, I had various roles to play, so to speak, in line with what the press was writing about me in 1982. But let us leave that alone, shall we?

[Announcer] What contacts have you had up to now with the Polish People's Army [PPA]?

[Onyszkiewicz] Well, I attended military training at my university for a certain period. I did not complete it, that is why I am a private, but I have contacts because, years ago, when my caving and potholing club in Warsaw was

carrying out research underground in Klodzko, in the Klodzko fortress, I was put in command of a team of sappers who were to clear these pasages of mines. That is my entire experience to date, actually.

[Announcer] How is a private going to command generals? Will the generals understand?

[Onyszkiewicz] I have no intention of commanding or giving orders. It is a bit like the Sejm, which also rules the generals [word indistinct] and the national defense minister. I think we will find a common language somehow.

[Announcer] What protocol will you have to study to be able to mix with Cuban and Soviet generals, etc.?

[Onyszkiewicz] That, I do not know. I am just getting down to studying various materials, but I have had meetings with those generals at different diplomatic receptions and I am hoping for the best.

[Announcer] The saying goes that war is too serious to be left to generals.

[Onyszkiewicz] That is true. I personally am an optimist. I do not believe in war, but, as the Romans used to say, in order to avoid war, be prepared for it.

Sejm Speaker on 'Transitional' Defense Policy

LD0904202990 Warsaw PAP in English 1753 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 8—"The Army is one of the attributers of any state, and on the other hand, we are aware that our Army compared with military powers is poorly equipped," Sejm (lower house) Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz told PAP today.

"In case of war such an Army alone cannot do much. Thus thinking in terms of blocs is still topical," he went on.

"During a meeting of the National Defence Committee (KOK) we approved of the defensive doctrine of the Republic of Poland. But we also asked a question—I was among those who did it—in what world it was to be implemented. Is it still to be a concept of the world divided into two opposite blocs? Today the border between them is vanishing but military structures have still been adjusted to the old system of forces.

"This is, in my opinion, a transitional period during which the doctrine will undoubtedly change. But as long as the blocs exist, and in the opinion of some people they are still necessary in order to maintain equilibrium and European security, we must strive for changing the nature of these blocs from purely military to a political one, one of agreement, interest, and agreeing upon actions to reach defined aims on a peaceful road."

"I think that the idea of a common Polish-German brigade which has been born recently, raises doubts to the extent that it concerns only one brigade and not various joint units with other nations. These are symbolic actions aiming at washing away borders between the blocs which have been opposite so far."

"The presence of Soviet troops in Poland is also examined against this background. Both the Polish Government and the nation are almost unanimous that their presence is temporary, and that one must reject everything obsolete in their stationing. One has to make their stationing here less troublesome for Polish citiens. Changed must be payments for their stationing. On the other hand, as long as the international situation is not clear and the Polish western border is not unequivocally recognized, we do not think it is time now to withdraw Soviet troops from Poland. According to public opinion polls the majority of Poles supports this point of view," Kozakiewicz stressed.

Kiszczak Chairs First Law Observance Committee

AU0304112590 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 28 Mar 90 p 3

[Cezary Rudzinski report: "How Can Security Be Ensured?"]

[Text] The Council of Ministers Coordinating Committee for Law Observance held its inaugural session on Tuesday [27 March] under the chairmanship of General Czeslaw Kiszczak, deputy premier and internal affairs minister. The committee was appointed on 30 January by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

Many important statements were made during the meeting and numerous figures and views were cited. C. Kiszczak said that the fight against common crime was the key issue at the present time. Division General Zenon Trzcinski, commander in chief of the Citizens' Militia, also talked about the crime threat. It was stressed that the deployment of more police was not enough to achieve a breakthrough in the fight against crime, especially as there is a shortage of men. Operations of this nature require public support. Without it, there can be no talk of effectively tracking down and apprehending criminals.

Perhaps, it is worth considering the possibility of setting up local citizens policing services that would be modelled on the voluntary fire fighting service, suggested Gen. C. Kiszczak.

Experts also raised the question of fighting economic crime, which is something that existing state structures have not been prepared for in light of today's new circumstances. This particularly applies to offenses relating to taxation and the use of loopholes to circumvent the law as the economy is privatized. Kiszczak suggested that it might be necessary to set up a special treasury police department.

Closing the meeting, Czeslaw Kiszczak said that employees are leaving the ministry's various departments in droves.

He said: "We are witnessing the flight of young people who have clean hands, an impeccable past, and have received a thorough training for the job. The training of specialists who can take their place is a matter of at least five years. Currently, the number of militiamen leaving the service exceeds the number of new recruits."

"Criminals are—this an observation of my own—feeling increasingly immune from punishment and are becoming more and more brazen."

Krakow Militia Placed Under 'Public Control'

LD0304221590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2100 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] An agreement has been signed in Krakow between the Voivodship Office of Internal Affairs and the local Citizens' Committee, under which the militia force in the voivodship will be subject to public control, carried out by a Law and Order Commission set up by the Krakow Citizens' Committee. The commission will be able to visit administrative offices, commissariats, and police stations belonging to the Internal Affairs Ministry, to check on the work of militia patrols, and even to accompany duty officers during their work and take a non-active part in militia operations.

TRYBUNA Publishes Crime Figures

AU0504131690 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 3 Apr 90 p 1

[Cezary Rudzinski report: "Are We Safe?"]

[Text] In Radom, on Osiedlowa Street, at about 0045, a militiaman who was checking a shop discovered that it had been broken into. While checking the identity of two suspected criminals, he was overpowered and disarmed by a third. Another militiaman, hastening to help his colleague, was fired upon by the criminals, who were carrying stolen weapons.

In a town in Slupsk Voivodship, at around 2200, unknown perpetrators entered the apartment of Edward C., opened a metal safe, and stole two hunting rifles, 335 cartridges, and three pairs of binoculars.

In Podkowa Lesna, Warsaw Voivodship, at around 2300, burglars entered the home of Witold M. by breaking a balcony window, and stole radio and television equipment, plus 40 million zlotys in cash.

In Legnica, at around 0300, unknown perpetrators pretending to be militiamen entered the apartment of Jolanta U and arrested Fryderyk T., a guest from the FRG, after which they beat him up and relieved him of DM1,800.

This is not the figment of a journalist's imagination, but facts taken from just one militia file. The security of citizens, their life and health, and especially their property, is in increasing danger.

Last year almost 550,000 crimes were committed, over 15 percent more than in 1988. Now the rate of increase is accelerating rapidly.

In the category of crime against the life and health of citizens, a category which officially "does not constitute any cause for concern", 38 crimes are being registered every day. Five rapes a day and ten killings a week are being noted. An average of 1,254 crimes a day has been recorded in cities. In 1989, every 43d resident of Warsaw Voivodship fell victim to crime, and that includes infants! In statistical terms, 165 people have a road accident every day, of whom 18 are killed!

Crime against property—burglaries and robberies—has reached nightmarish proportions. There were 332,000 such crimes last year, almost 912 a day. This is over 60 percent more than in 1988.

The reasons behind the drastic growth in crime are known, although varied. The main reason is the sharp economic, political, and social crisis, which is already over 10 years old. Market disintegration, inflation, and a sudden fall in the standard of living of a major part of the population have been and remain crime-inducing factors. These processes have increased this year, compounded by a new phenomenon that is getting worse every week—unemployment.

All this is accompanied by a deep crisis in moral values and in a respect for the law, as well as the collapse of the prestige of all authority. To this one must add the increasing powerlessness of the militia, for society's support for it has practically fallen to zero. Attacks on the militia by the mass media and a demonstrative hatred of it by some opinion-forming circles, coupled with a lack of answers to the basic question about its future, has caused militiamen, especially those in the "front line," to leave the profession en masse.

This is expected to be a difficult year. One should expect an increase in burglaries and robberies. Criminals can act in a more organized manner, and make greater use of modern equipment and weapons.

The answer to the title question, can we feel safe, is, unfortunately, negative.

Justice Minister Proposes New Court Structure

AU0104132490 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 28 Mar 90 pp 1, 3

[Jan Ordynski article: "A Revolution in the Courts"]

[Text] Revolutionary organizational changes are about to take place in our court system. These changes are to be implemented in two stages.

In the first stage, the Justice Ministry is proposing to create six to nine courts of appeal from 1 July 1990. These would sit in the university towns. They would take over the duties of the Supreme Court in hearing ordinary appeals against judgment from regional and voivodship

courts where the competence of the lower court was itself not in question. The Supreme Court, which has some 50 judges, would then confine itself to hearing extraordinary appeals and substantial points of law.

The second stage, to be introduced after 1 July 1991, will introduce a comprehensive three tier structure of the courts. Within the new three tier structure there would be the following:

—300 regional courts. In relation to civil cases, these courts would hear, among other things, matters arising out of property rights; lease, tenancy, and hire agreements; eviction proceedings, loan repayment; as well as matters related to small debt claims and related executory proceedings, excluding matters which are within the competence of the voivodship court. In relation to criminal proceedings, these would include, among others, misdemeanors (excluding those reserved for the voivodship court), minor offenses, private prosecutions, appeals for conditional discharge, prison matters, and appeals from the petty offenses board. In relation to family and juvenile law, this would include maintenance payments, juvenile matters, alcohol dependency, as well as executory powers in these matters.

—49 voivodship courts. These courts would act as the first court of appeal for all cases coming to them from the regional courts, and would sit as a court of first instance to hear the following civil law matters; substantial litigation cases (for example contentious property matters), distribution of estates and other substantial noncontentious cases (excluding family and labor matters), association and trade union law, as well as other cases which might be transferred to them on the basis of special powers.

In relation to criminal cases, this would include offenses defined in the criminal code and other special statutes, as well as minor offenses specially reserved for the voivodship court, prison matters that are specially reserved, and questions of supervision of its executory matters.

In relation to family law, this would include divorce proceedings, questions of validity of marriage, and paternity or maternity proceedings.

In relation to labor and social security law, the court will have power to hear all matters which arise, but only when it acts as a court of first instance.

In economic matters, it would have the power to hear all matters arising from labor legislation and matters of registration, which presently belong to the regional courts.

—Six to nine courts of appeal. These courts would have the power to hear all appeals coming to them from the voivodship court. Is is still unclear whether they will also have the power to hear certain criminal matters as courts of first instance, for example, offenses which carry a sentence of 25 years, or life imprisonment. In civil law they might still receive the power to hear matters involving protection of certain forms of property defined as intellectual property.

It has been estimated that the implementation of the first stage will require some 120 judges of appeal. These posts could partially be filled from the anticipated reductions in the Supreme Court and the voivodship courts.

These proposals were presented by Aleksander Bentkowski on 27 March 1990 to a group of lawyers and legal academics; namely, Professors Zofia Wasilkowska, Zbigniew Dodza, Alfred Kaftal, Stefan Kalinowski, Stanislaw Waltos, Jan Waszczynski, and Doctors Andrzej Rzeplinski and Marek Safjan. Their reaction was generally positive. There were differing views as to the model and the usefulness of retaining the extraordinary appellate power of the Supreme Court. It was debated whether there should be some matters in which this court would be a court of second instance. This would give the court contact with the judicial decisions of the lower courts, a matter of some importance.

Sejm Creates New State Protection Office

AU0904074590 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 4 Apr 90 p 2

[Cezary Rudzinski article: "The New Security Service"]

[Text] The Security Service will not live to see its 46th birthday. This is because the draft law on the State Protection Office [UOP] approved by the Sejm commissions envisages that the Security Service will be disbanded within 3 months of the day on which the law comes into force and the UOP is created.

The law will provide for the dismissal of all those who are currently Security Service functionaries as well as those who were functionaries until 31 July 1989 and then transferred to the Citizens' Militia. This does not mean that the UOP, the new structure, will be made up of entirely new people.

This is because the Security Service has many employees who "have clean hands and consciences," are educated, and have been trained to perform what is a difficult job. If they pass vetting procedures and satisfy conditions that will be set by the Council of Ministers, they will be able to work for UOP.

What does the bill say that the UOP will be? It is to be an institution established for the purpose of protecting the Polish Republic and its constitutional order. The UOP's tasks include: the identification of threats to the security, defense, independence, and integrity of the state and the taking of appropriate counteraction; the prevention and detection of the crimes of espionage and terrorism as well as other serious crimes directed against the state and the apprehension of the perpetrators of such crimes; the preservation of state secrets; and the preparation of reports and analyses that are important for state security, for the highest organs of government and the state administration.

The Council of Ministers will set out in detail the structure and functions of the UOP. The head of the UOP will be responsible to the internal affairs minister, but he will be appointed and recalled by the premier after the views of the Internal Affairs Minister's Political Advisory Committee have been sought. It is to consist of one structure and, as needs dictate, regional representations. Functionaries will only carry out activities on the recommendation of courts or prosecuting attorneys within the bounds set by the criminal procedure code.

UOP functionaries will enjoy powers that are similar to those of the police, but are not as extensive. In certain cases, which will be strictly defined, they will have the right to use direct coercion, including the use of firearms. In order to prevent or detect crimes that are harmful to the constitutional order, security, and state defense and in connection with the investigation of crimes regulated by international agreements, the internal affairs minister will be able to authorize, for a given period of time, the inspection of correspondence and the use of technical means to obtain secret information and to preserve clues and evidence. These activities will be carried out by the UOP. However, the prosecutor general has to be immediately informed of every such case.

These are some examples of the ways in which the rights of functionaries will be restricted: membership in political parties is prohibited; the acceptance of paid employment outside the service without the permission of superiors is prohibited; superiors have to be informed of membership in Polish associations operating outside the service and in the case of foreign associations, permission has to be obtained from the internal affairs minister or from persons who are authorized to act on his behalf. Should a functionary or a functionary's spouse or children wish to travel abroad, permission has to be obtained from the head of the State Protection Office.

These and other inconveniences such as no fixed working hours, no entitlement to payment for overtime, are to some extent compensated for by, among other things, the right to a pension after 15 years service (in such cases it will amount to 40 percent of the base rate).

The system of ranks in the State Protection Office will correspond to that of the military.

Sejm Discusses New Holiday, Ministry Functions

LD0704041590 Warsaw PAP in English 2200 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 6—The Sejm (parliament's lower house) resolved today to make May 3rd an official national holiday and cancel the July 22 holiday.

On May 3, 1791, the Sejm had passed the Constitution. The holiday was cancelled by People's Authority in 1947.

Discussion on National Holidays

A letter on national holidays which President Wojciech Jaruzelski addressed to the Sejm speaker was the sensation of the day.

Many speakers referred to the message. One of them voiced surprise over the determination with which President Jaruzelski defended the fallen redoubt.

The left-wing deputies appealed for wisdom and objectiveness when assessing painful and difficult experiences. The majority of speakers voiced an opinion that that was a period of the nation's bondage. Deputy Stefan Niesiolowski said that the PKWN (July 22) manifesto had been printed in Moscow and that it had established the state and system now being liquidated.

There were 268 votes for restoring the May 3rd national holiday. There was one vote against and two abstentions.

182 deputies voted for the cancellation of the July 22 holiday, 56 deputies were against and 39 abstained.

Police Laws

The problem of the Internal Affairs Ministry and services subordinated to it found its conclusion. As of today, the ministry will be a civilian body while the Security Service SB became a matter of historical interest.

According to laws adopted by the Sejm today, the Internal Affairs Ministry will be a normal ministry like others. It will employ civilians—civil servants instead of functionaries.

A new institution is being created in Poland: the State Protection Office, which will be responsible for intelligence and counterintelligence, protection against crimes against the state, and analysis of internal threats to the state and democracy.

The Citizens' militia will be substituted with a national police force divided into criminal and traffic police, prevention squads and anti-terrorist sub-squads.

The Sejm adopted the Law on the Office of the Internal Affairs Minister with 240 votes for, 6 against and 18 abstentions, the Law on Police with 241 votes for, 2 against and 16 abstentions and the Law on the Office for the Protection of the State with 240 votes for, 3 against and 11 abstentions.

It was assumed that militiamen will automatically become policemen while employment contracts with security servicemen will be dissolved at the moment of the conclusion of the organization of the State Protection Office.

Deputy Jan Rokita said that the Internal Affairs Ministry is among those ministries undergoing the quickest transformations. It underwent far reaching personnel changes, changes eagerly awaited and needed. The most important fact is that persons who were to leave left the

composition of the ministry's leadership, the threat from the Internal Affairs Ministry to citizens' rights has considerably decreased.

Bartoszcze-Geremek Dispute

During the debate, part of Deputy Bartoszcze's address caused a commotion among deputies. Bartoszcze referred to a letter carried by the GAZETA WYBORCZA daily in which one of the readers wrote that unpunishable burning of archives of the security service, as well as of the PUWP [Polish United Workers Party], is aimed to cover up proof of connections betwen the old and new authorities, for who will now know how many of our deputies affiliated in Solidarnosc have cooperated with the Security Service and how many of the current leaders of Solidarnosc have been informers?

Chairman of the Citizens' Parliamentary Club OKP Bronislaw Geremek replied that there are no grounds to state that people from Solidarnosc or people from OKP were linked with the Security Service. I assert that this is not true, and until this is not proven, every such statement is a slander for which one must bear responsibility, said Geremek.

Deputy Geremek turned to the government to undertake appropriate steps in this field in connection with the expressed accusation.

Deputy Ujazdowski on his part did not agree with the entry concerning powers of the internal affairs minister to organize bugging, observation and control of mail only after informing the Prosecutor's Office authorities.

At the end of the debate, Deputy Jerzy Wojcik, on behalf of the Pax Catholic Association floor group, turned to the prime minister to reveal to the club and to the family full results of the inquiry concerning the murder in 1957 of the teenage son of a Catholic activist Boleslaw Piasecki. It is believed that the murder was a politically motivated crime, while the way in which the inquiry was led shows that there was an aim to not reveal the perpetrators of the crime.

The chamber also adopted a law which shifted upon the minister of labour and social affairs tasks dealing with social care which up to now was in the powers of the health minister.

The Sejm also created an extraordinary commission to review draft laws on systemic changes in the economy.

Interview With Sejm Speaker on Sejm Structure

LD0304191690 Warsaw PAP in English 1555 GMT 3 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 3—The Polish Sejm has been working in its new term of office for eight months now. This Sejm was not elected in a fully democratic way, but still it is doing the work of a super-democratic Sejm. How can this be explained? This was a question with which Radio Free Europe [RFE] turned to Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz. Following is the reply of the Polish parliament speaker:

—I think the main reason is that the structure of the Sejm has changed following the split of the Worker's Party (Polish United Workers' Party] [PUWP/PZPR] which divided itself into social democracies of three orientations. Second, it seems that this is because all parties, which was also the case before the PUWP disappeared, irrespective of ideological differences, pragmatically support the Mazowiecki government. And this is the fundamental paradox. This Sejm was born out of protest against the absence of opposition in the Sejm. During the roundtable talks, Solidarnosc wanted the opposition to have 35 per cent of mandates in this Sejm.

There is no Opposition in Sejm

—There is no opposition at all at the present moment. No party is opposed to the Mazowiecki government. And this is not a matter of a ritual or of concern over own interests. This is a deep disquiet over a possible failure of this government, for there might be no other democratic government to assume responsibility for such profound reforms.

Elections Will Be Speeded Up

—I am convinced that elections will be speeded up, and that irrespective of what is taking place in the neighbouring countries. This certainty of mine that the term will be shortened originates from the two facts. First, that all deputies, despite the function they perform, feel that something is missing. They do not feel they were all elected on an equal footing, so it is as if deputies were divided into a better and a worse lot. Those from the opposition were being elected freely even though elections in this country also had the character of a plebiscite. As a matter of fact, this was a plebiscite (as in the GDR) for or against Communism. This is what it was all about. On the other hand, we are going to feel the pressure of those facts which are taking place abroad. And also, there are 35 new political parties, some say that even more, which demand access to parliament.

When Elections?

—And again, it is the parties not represented in parliament which demand the quickest possible elections. THe Mazowiecki government, as it seems, the way I see it, just as the present leadership of the Citizens' Parliamentary Club, OKP, is not willing to have the elections too quick, that is, prior to implementation of fundamental reforms in the state. For nobody knows just what the Sejm will be like after these new elections. It may be very fragmented, split, coalitions of various kinds may emerge, and everybody knows what the Sejm is like at present. And this Sejm is realizing

the reforms programme. Therefore, to give up this Sejm too easily is in a way a risky step also for the government.

Ministry Unveils Telephone Plans for Year 2000

AU0404153290 Warsaw GAZETA WYBORCZA in Polish 30 Mar 90 p 3

[Tomasz Swiderek article: "A Telephonic Miracle at an Incredible Cost"]

[Text] If the plans proposed by the Communications Ministry are adopted, then (depending on the alternative chosen) by the year 2000 there will be 10 to 12 million telephone subscribers and some 100,000 subscribers will be using the cellular telephone network. We shall be able to telephone directly from one Warsaw suburb to another, as well as directly phone other countries. One charge unit that today costs 90 zlotys [Z], will in year 2000 cost Z200 to Z500 (based on 1990 prices).

The program proposed by the Communications Ministry provides for, among other things, the replacement of some 40 percent of the existing telephone exchanges before 1995, and the use of telephone cables that resist all extraneous interference. In 1992 every village will have at least one private or one public telephone. An automatic dialling system connecting callers with the United States will be introduced in 1991, and 1991-1992 will see the construction of 8 automatic intercity exchanges, as well as gradual replacement and extension of the international telephone exchanges.

Thanks to this program the waiting time for a telephone line connection will be reduced to 12 months in 1995, and in year 2000 it will only be two weeks.

According to estimates produced by the Communications Ministry, once Polish telecommunications industry gains access to Western technology and the planned purchases of complete system installations, the industry will be in a position to satisfy the requirements for telecommunications.

Two alternative reorganization programs for the postal service have been proposed; namely:

—Telecommunications division is to finance the rest of the postal service;
—Telecommunications division to be separated.

The monopoly enjoyed by the postal service in the field of telecommunication services will be broken up. The Communications Minister will be responsible for fixing the maximum tariffs for the services provided by the telecommunication sector.

To 1993, the modernization of the Polish telephone network will cost 3.3 billion zlotys (based on 1990 prices).

The authors of the program calculate that the full cost of connecting one subscriber (including the construction of new exchanges, modernizing old ones, and laying new lines), will be some $1,000. World Bank experts estimate this figure to be nearer $1,500. That is why the total cost of telephone network investment is estimated at between $7.2 and $9.2 billion, if in the year 2000 there are 10 million subscribers, or $10.7 to $13.9 billion, if there are 12 million subscribers.

The cost of all investment is to be borne by the subscribers, but finance from banks (foreign and domestic) and from equipment suppliers, as well as from other investors, is also envisaged.

The plan provides that a private subscriber will have to pay Z2 million (based on 1990 prices) for a telephone line connection and an institution will have to pay Z5 million. The subscription charges will be Z15,000 (based on 1990 prices). One call charge unit will cost between Z200 and Z500 depending on which alternative for reorganizing the postal service is ultimately accepted.

When the costs of a line connection exceed $1,000, the subscription cost will be Z25,000, and the cost of connecting a private line will be Z2.25 million.

Daily Reports New Veterans Union

AU0404111890 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ RZECZPOSPOLITEJ in Polish 2 Apr 90 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "A New Union of Veterans of the Polish Republic and Former Political Prisoners Has Been Formed"]

[Text] On 1 April in Warsaw, the Seventh Congress of the Union of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy passed a resolution changing its name to the Union of Veterans of the Polish Republic and Former Political Prisoners. The congress accepted the statutes, program, and leadership of the new union. General of Arms Jozef Kaminski was elected chairman of the union's main board. In an interview he gave for PAP, the general said: "Our main aim will be to look after our veterans, many of whom are old, infirm, and need help and human understanding. That is why we remain open to all suggestions in this sphere and we have formed Veteran and Former Prisoners Association Councils which are intended to be the veteran's version of the "roundtable" talks.

Fundamental differences surfaced in the discussions held during the two days about the new name for the union. This discussion also touched on the desirability of having union members who had been instrumental in the struggle to enforce the authority of People's Poland. In the end, the following clause was agreed: "An ordinary member can be any Polish citizen who as a soldier fought for Poland's freedom in Polish or allied military formations, or who participated in the resistance movement, or who for political, national, or racist motives was imprisoned in camps or prisons." The congress did not question the need to preserve unity within the union, simply its organization, especially its management, and

the fact that the union's basic task was to care for the material conditions and health of its members and to strengthen and preserve the ties that link veterans.

This problem was also stressed by President Wojciech Jaruzelski who participated in the discussions. He indicated the role of the veterans; namely, people who had distinguished themselves in the struggle for Poland, against the wider internal, national, and international issues, especially those transformations taking place in Europe today. The union, the strong ties it has among its milieu, is baldly needed by Poland, he stressed. He hoped that the new organization would serve Poland well and that the veterans would continue to set an example to the younger generation and by example and conviction lead them to serve Poland.

General Florian Siwicki greeted congress delegates and all Polish veterans living in Poland and abroad in the name of the Defense Ministry and the soldiers of the Polish Army.

A letter from the Work and Social Security Minister, Jacek Kuron, was read out to the congress.

A resolution on Katyn was passed. In the resolution we read, among other things: "Katyn has become a symbol of the atrocity committed by the state organs of the USSR against Polish soldiers with the total violation of all moral norms and laws. We demand a full explanation of the crime that was perpetrated on Polish soldiers in 1940. On the 50th anniversary of the crime, we bow our heads before and give honor to the victims of Katyn, our comrades- in-arms, and heroes of the 1939 war."

The congress adopted "A Stance on Polish-German relations," and expressed its support for the endeavors of the Mazowiecki government which was pressing for the inviolability of Polish borders to be guaranteed by treaty.

Agriculture Sector Faces Possible 'Collapse'

AU0504152290 Warsaw SLOWO POWSZECHNE in Polish 3 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

['jerka'-signed commentary: "From the Fields to Our Tables"]

[Text] The negative aspects in the agricultural sector increasingly threaten to bring about a collapse in food production, especially animal production. This spring, one can easily note that the farmers, in contrast to the past, are much less interested in purchasing fertilizers, pesticides (there may be a 50 percent fall in their use), animal feeds, agricultural equipment, or grain seed. This also fuels fears that crop production might fall drastically.

Deputy Premier Balcerowicz claims that there is no danger, no impending catastrophe, and says that the people who are most worried are not the farmers themselves, but their representatives. The representatives, however, have for a long time unanimously been calling on the government to take necessary interventionist measures. Even the Polish Peasant Party - "Solidarity", the most progovernment peasant formation, has recently criticized government policy in relation to agriculture.

It is true that after the Polish Peasant Party—"Rebirth" published its correctional program, the government took certain measures to reduce the negative aspects which had appeared. The Council of Ministers lowered the interest rates of rolling credit for farmers (limited to 10 million zlotys), changed the principles underlying milk subsidies, and agreed to allow the export of agricultural products. Earlier, the government made a decision to subsidize fertilizer production, extraction and transport of agricultural lime, certain pesticides, and purchases of animal rearing equipment. It suspended the rates of duty payable on imports of foreign pesticides and agricultural machinery, and lowered the interest rates payable on credit for land purchase. Most recently, the government's draft bills on the formation of an Agricultural Market Agency and various amendments related to land cultivation have been presented to the Senate.

On the food market, however, there have been notable price rises. The upcoming Easter celebrations are not looking too happy for the majority of families, and many tables will lack the traditional food dishes. There are many factors which indicate that the present price rises do not have a seasonal character, but may signify the beginnings of recession, the returning echo of inflation.

Opinions on the recent moves made by the government tend to the view that these concessions were made under duress, are incomplete, and come too late. Hitherto, the emphasis has been to dampen production, rather than to stimulate it (by limiting procurement and lowering production prices). The climb out of the recessionary hollow will be a longterm process.

Quite obviously, the most effective instrument that will restore a production orientated climate in our agriculture is the one that succeeds in stimulating demand for food on the home market (dreams of possible food export success might only materialize in the East). For as long as expensive food swallows up the lion's share of our incomes, the agricultural sector will face an insurmountable barrier of depressed demand for its products. One does not know for how long our pauperized society will continue to accept the present state of affairs.

Act To Affirm 'Inalienable Right' of Passport

AU0904123990 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 5 Apr 90 pp 1, 3

[Danuta Frey report: "A Passport Revolution"]

[Text] A legal guarantee that anyone can obtain a passport, the abolition of official and consular passports, the issue and renewal of passports by Polish consular establishments abroad, and a clear ruling by the Council of Ministers on who is and who is not entitled to a diplomatic passport are just some of the novelties of the

planned passport regulations. These are to be placed before the Council of Ministers for its approval this month.

The future Passport Act, containing provisions unheard of since the war, will replace the present restrictive act which dates from 1959 and contains an entire series of vague rules which permit refusals to issue a passport. For instance, nowhere does the 1959 act confirm the right to hold a passport as an integral part of civic rights.

In other words, the new act will affirm every citizen's inalienable right to hold a passport, which represents an entirely new way of thinking and an entire new set of practical rules.

"Were it not for the new Act, once again we would have had just another fragmentary amendment to existing rules, as has been the case until now," said Adam Palafij, deputy director of the Legal Department of the Internal Affairs Ministry.

A person's right to hold a passport may be removed or restricted only in the situations envisaged in the new act. Therefore, no administrative decrees to restrict this right can be issued. Parliament will be the only body that can decide on this matter.

Another change vis-a-vis the present rules is that passport-issuing authorities will no longer have the right to decide whom to issue and whom to refuse a passport. A passport may only be refused when a court, prosecutor, or central state body files an "application to refuse the issue of a passport" and submits it to a passport issuing authority. This can happen when an applicant for a passport is faced with criminal or civil proceedings, and when important defense and security interests preclude the issue of a passport to a particular person. The new act also envisages the possibility of refusing a passport to anyone who has committed a crime abroad. Says the bill: "The issue of a passport may be refused if the applicant has failed to discharge a statutory obligation." This includes the payment of income tax and alimony.

However, the new rules foresee the possibility of giving someone a passport for a single trip even when there are justified reasons not to issue that person with a passport. This applies to emergency situations connected with the life and interests of the person concerned. However, the body that has filed the "application to refuse the issue of a passport" has to give its consent.

Instead of the present three categories of passport—tourist, official, and consular - there will be just one passport, with the same design for everyone, regardless of the purpose of the trip. There is no reason why the state treasury should be burdened with the cost of official passports, as it has been until now. The only separate category will be diplomatic passports, with strict rules about who may hold them.

Just as in most Western countries, Polish passports would be issued for 10 years. However, the passport fee would depend on the applicant. By paying a lower fee, he could have a passport valid for a shorter period.

A new idea is for Polish consular establishments abroad to issue and renew passports. They would also issue an emergency passport to anyone who has lost his passport and wishes to return to Poland.

The supreme authority on passport matters would be the internal affairs minister, followed by the voivodas. That means that Passport Offices would become departments of Voivodship Internal Affairs Offices. Also, there is no reason why there should be a separate Passport Office inside the Internal Affairs Ministry. All that is necessary is to have a team of employees, in the Ministry dealing with appeals against refusals, issuing a passport. How this will be organized depends on the chairman of the Council of Ministers and the voivodas.

The issue of a passport should take up to three months, but a passport may be issued within three days in an emergency. Also, passports may be issued directly by the internal affairs minister.

Passports will not be rendered invalid instead, a person's right to leave the country may be suspended if a person already holds a passport and circumstances arise which render it justifiable to prevent him from leaving the country. But here again, it is not the passport issuing authority that would decide, but the relevant body mentioned above (court, prosecutor, or central state office). In such a case, the passport would be deposited with the passport issuing body, and the passport fees refunded.

Mazowiecki: Warsaw Not To Be 'Single Commune'

LD0504220990 Warsaw PAP in English 1650 GMT 5 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 5—Warsaw will not be a single commune, such is the final decision of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, made available to the public here today.

Also today, during a break in the Sejm (lower house) debates, the premier signed an ordinance under which particular Warsaw districts become communes which would form an obligatory union.

The premier received with satisfation the assumptions of the draft law on Warsaw self-government under which the capital city is going to be a single economic organism not divided into "micro-organisms."

It was agreed the draft law initiators and government representatives would take part in further work on the draft.

Commission Appointed To Liquidate Press Concern

LD0604040790 Warsaw PAP in English 2130 GMT 5 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 5—Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki decided to appoint a commission to liquidate the RSW "Prasa-Ksiazka-Ruch" biggest press concern in Poland.

The commission, to be headed by Jerzy Drygalski, a scientific worker of the Lodz University, will start activity this April 6. The body will comprise editors-in-chiefs and journalists from different Polish cities. The concern controlled the majority of papers in Poland while the vast part of its profits covered the expenses of the then Polish United Workers' Party PUWP.

Geremek Denies OKP 'Protecting' PZPR Assets

LD0604230690 Warsaw PAP in English 2132 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 6—Deputy Marek Jurek of the Citizens' Parliamentary Floor Group OKP upheld today his statement delivered on TV yesterday to the effect that part of the OKP leadership played a special role in protecting the property left over by the former Polish United Workers' Party PUWP which made it impossible to hand over that property to Polish society.

Speaking on TV, the deputy had also stated that not always the policy carried out in the name of Solidarity was fully supported by the union and the union's electorate.

At an emergency meeting held by the OKP today, OKP head Bronislaw Geremek, who denied the allegations, upheld his own stand previously voiced in that same TV programme. "I do not know a single person of the OKP leadership who would act to protect the property left over by the PUWP," he said. "The stand by the group's leadership and all of its parts that I know was unequivocal: The property left by the former PUWP had been seized (by the PUWP) and must be given back to the nation," Geremek said.

'Apphrension' Over TRYBUNA's Future

AU0904111690 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 7-8 Apr 90 p 1

[Marek Siwiec editorial: "What Will Happen to TRYBUNA After the Break Up of RSW?"]

[Text] This is the question that has begun to worry our readers. This apprehension is also felt by our editorial team. Today, the decision to break up the Workers Publishing Cooperative [RSW] also turns out to be a judgment that has a direct bearing on our paper. The only certain thing is that the future of our paper, as well as many other publications, lies in the hands of RSW's liquidator appointed by the premier.

The new legislation creates the possibility of forming cooperatives into whose hands the rights to use a particular paper's name could be transferred by the liquidator. The exercise of such power has been made conditional on several things; namely, the cooperative must assume the obligation for the paper's debts and the members of the cooperative must each contribute a sum equivalent to their three months salary.

TRYBUNA is a daily that has appeared since 10 February 1990. Some 100 journalists work for the paper and about one third of these are people who had no former association with TRYBUNA LUDU. We want to form a cooperative and secure the right to continue to publish our paper. We do not know whether we shall be successful, because we do not know the exact motives that lie behind the official policy in relation to our paper.

Our paper is running at a deficit. Until now it was subsidized by the RSW from its other sources of income. Other publications were helped in a similar way, but evidently the party daily TRYBUNA LUDU used to receive the lions share of such help. Everything had to be paid for, from the Peace Race right down to the TRYBUNA LUDU special holiday. Nobody cared whether any of these events ever made any money. This luxury has now ceased for ever.

We were aware of all this when we decided to launch TRYBUNA. However, not everything can be achieved overnight, especially in the publishing field. We have drastically reduced our overheads, are searching for better ways to attract advertisers, and we have plans to widen our publishing activity. All this activity, nevertheless, will only succeed in reducing some of our deficit. In times of recession and incredible paper and print costs, it is impossible to continue to publish a profitable daily of TRYBUNA's format.

Have we no hope whatsoever? I believe we have.

The experience of our first few months is positive. Our unsold copy returns have fallen from 24 to 18 percent. We have been able to generate a great deal of interest among our readership, as well as among our enemies. We continue to be read, although we cannot say that we are liked everywhere. We are attempting to build a new type of a modern opposition newspaper.

The next few weeks will be very difficult for us. We must preserve the essential elements necessary for our continued existence; namely, our premises and equipment. We hope that in our most difficult periods we shall be able to find supporters among our readership and all the institutions who wish to do business with us. We hope that all the parties of the left, especially the Social Democracy of the Polish Republic, will give us their support.

TRYBUNA will be more expensive and thinner, although you will still find the same number of words as before. We shall reduce our headlines and the style of the print may vary. We shall publish advertisements on

separate pull-out pages. We count on your understanding. We guarantee to be different and completely independent.

Government Releases Jan-Mar Economic Statistics

LD0904202490 Warsaw PAP in English 1923 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 9—After a sharp fall in socialized industry's production last January, results scored in February and March showed that that tendency was checked and the production was maintained at the level achieved in January.

The situation continues to be more difficult in the processing industry (particularly the light and food industries) than the one reported in the extractive industry though the gap between them is becoming smaller.

Deputy head of the Main Statistical Office GUS Jozef Zajchowski told newsmen today that the financial situation at socialized enterprises was faily good. After last January and February, the rate of returns was 36 per cent and was lower by four points only than the one reached last December. This means that there will be not many bankruptcies.

People's real incomes were lower by 35 per cent in the first quarter of this year than the ones in the same period last year while demand for consumer goods fell by 47 per cent.

The overall exports (in fixed prices) grew by 2.7 per cent while imports fell by 22.4 per cent. As a result, the foreign trade surplus after the first quarter totalled some one billion rubles and nearly 800 million dollars.

Last March brought lower price hikes that it was planned by the Finance Ministry (they should not exceed 7 per cent). That showed March last being the first month this year when pay outran prices.

In comparison with February, pay in the socialized economy sectors grew by 9.5 per cent, and with payments on profits they went up by 34.9 per cent. The average pay in five sectors of the socialized economy was 713.900 zlotys in March and in the extractive industry—1,202,300 zlotys.

The purchase of livestock was lower by 25 per cent in the first quarter of this year against last year's figures, with the biggest fall being recorded in the purchase of pigs (lower by 34.6 per cent) while the purchase of calves grew by 20 per cent.

Anonymous Callers Claim Responsibility for Bomb

LD1304180490 Warsaw PAP in English 1545 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 13—An anonymous caller phoned the management of the Warsaw Okecie International Airport at 1:35 p.m. Warsaw time today, and said that a bomb has been planted in the departures hall which is to go off at 6 p.m. A similar phone call was received by the "GAZETA WYBORCZA".

At 1:55 an anonymous man called the airport's management once again saying that the bomb has been planted by a "group solidarizing with Arabs staging a hunger strike in Swinoujscie."

After the first phone [call], passenger's control was suspended, while special forces serched the hall. Director of the Okecie Airport, enquired by PAP external service, said at 4:30 that the search did not bring any results and airport staff resumed normal passenger's control.

Ex-King's Bureau Answers Roman's TV Statements

AU1304202190 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1900 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Message from the press bureau of the former Romanian King:

In connection with the statements made by Prime Minister Petre Roman, on the evening of 12 April 1990, we would like to clarify the following points: —1. In his message, Prime Minister Petre Roman referred to a letter that the king had sent to the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC]. He implied that this letter represents a clear indication about the political nature of the king's visit to Romania, which has repercussions on the 20 May 1990 elections, a letter that had been sent on 23 February 1990, before the electoral law was adopted. The aim of the letter was to remind the PNUC members that the electoral law could predetermine the right of all Romanians to adopt a constitution at a later date. The principle that the electoral law cannot dictate the constructional provisions in Romania, was ultimately accepted by the majority of the political parties in the council. Ever since the electoral law has been elected, the king has not made any statements in this respect. Apart from that, if the political nature of the king's letter was so clear, then why was the entrance visa still granted, and this political nature became evident only yesterday, when the king's entrance was prohibited.

—2. Prime Minister Roman stated that the king's letter calls for a referendum on the monarchy in Romania, which is completely inexact. The letter only suggests that any constitutional provision of any nature should be submitted to the approval of the people.

—3. The letter, to which the prime minister refers, was not sent only to the government. Through diplomatic channels and reflecting responsibilities of the provisional authorities, King Mihai requested Mr. Iliescu to make known the contents of the letter to all the PNUC members. Prime Minister Roman, in his message failed to mention whether this request has been granted and the Romanian Provisional Government has not answered the king's letter.

—4. The prime minister mentioned in his television message that the Provisional Government often tried to communicate with the king wishing to suggest a postponement of the proposed visit, but said that the king could not be contacted. As a matter of fact, such contacts with the royal house did take place, however the representatives of the Provisional Government requested that they should be confidential. The king's bureau respected this request, however, because the prime minister decided to mention these contacts, the silence has been broken.

—5. The Provisional Government requested that the royal family postpone the visit, implying that it has a political nature. The Romanian authorities and the diplomatic representatives in charge in Berne encouraged the visit offering the king a house, official cars, and the ensurance of personal guard. The king thanked the government for the kind offer, accepted the security service but refused the offer of a special house and of the official cars in order to ensure his visit a neutral and private nature. The issue of organizing a rally in Timisoara or any other locality in Romania has never come up. —6. In his statements last night, Mr. Roman also mentioned that the decision to withdraw the king's visa was determined by the government decision to strictly apply the electoral law and avoid major disturbance. This cannot be questioned. Any provisional government is duty bound to (?observe) an electoral law and defend its citizens from dangers. The argument should be addressed to a completely different principle: the right of a Romanian citizen to enter his country of origin. The king was born Romanian, on Romanian soil, he has never renounced his Romanian citizenship and it has never been withdrawn, not even by the communist regime. In accordance with the 1975 Helsinki final document, Romania is obliged to grant its citizens the right to enter Romania at any time. Romania's recent request to be received in the European Council also depends on the observance of this condition.

The king was deeply saddened by the statements made by the deputy foreign minister in which he suggested that the king, who lived 43 in exile would not suffer too much if he stayed away for a little longer.

13 April, 1990 at the press bureau:

[Announcer-read statement: Esteemed listeners, as far as the text of the letter written by Ex-King Mihai, dated 23 February 1990, to which reference is made in the communique, is concerned, as well as the text of the answer of the PNUC Executive Bureau, this latter body is the only body capable of deciding on their publication]

Bratianu on 'Untimely' Visit

AU1304145590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1141 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/04/1990—"The visit would have coincided with the first free Easter holiday for Romanians in several decades. Therefore, an opportunity for high emotions and less reason," Ion. I. Bratianu, chairman of the "Bratianu" Liberal Union and honorary president of Romania's Liberal Party, told an ADEVARUL reporter. "I was afraid lest this great Christian holiday should be clouded by dispute, hatred, maybe even violence and bloodshed," said the Romanian politician, who was one of the personalities that regarded ex-King Mihai's visit as untimely during the election campaign.

Asked if he did not perhaps exaggerate, or if he was not overpessimistic, Ion I. Bratianu said: "Not at all. Both

the information I have, and the responsibilities, political as well as civic, that I must assume make me think that way."

Realistically, that is. Showing that he contacted (on 11 April) one of the ex-king's daughters, Princess Sophia, to ask the former monarch to postpone his planned visit, the collocutor said: "If this appeal, which is not the only one, is heeded, then we can speak of a measure of wisdom in a reason vacuum."

Newspaper ROMANIA LIBERA terms the Romanian Government's cancellation of ex-King Mihai I's entry visa an "unjustified offence." An editorial note says among other things "we have got used to inconsistency and, in the last analysis, we can understand, though not approve, our government's decision."

What we cannot understand, and even less accept, is the simply amazing attitude of Mr. Campeanu and Mr. Bratianu, the Liberal leaders who, contented to be, at long last, leaders of "historical parties" in the country said that King Mihai I's visit came at the wrong time. We are not supporters of monarchy, the newspaper says, but we cannot help noting that liberal political leaders traded elegance for electoral calculation. On the other hand, the same newspaper says ex-King Mihai's attitude at the Zurich Airport was "very noble."

Another Friday newspaper, DREPTATEA issued by the National Christian-Democratic Peasant Party, says in an editorial note contesting the government's right to close the border to ex-King Mihai I: "The political implications of the king's presence in Romania are clear to everybody. But then, so are the implications of the refusal to allow him to cross the border.

"There is a long way between the return of the former monarch to Romania for a visit and his restoration to the throne.... It is the obligation of the future government to call a referendum, if the former monarch pledges to bow to popular will."

NLP Protests 'Anti-Monarchic League'

AU1304183590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1701 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/4/1990—The Liberal Party protests against the foundation of an Anti-Monarchic League in Romania.

A statement sent to the news agency ROMPRES shows that "although such a league proclaimed itself non-political, one cannot speak about a non-political position on an obviously political matter like the establishment of a form of government.

This party holds the view that the setting up of such a grouping on the eve of a highly significant event like King Michael's intention to visit, as a private person, his native country on Easter celebrations doubts the sincerity of such an anti-monarchic grouping.

This party considers the foundation of the league inopportune just as the demonstration announced for 16 April, which "is nothing else but an attempt to bar our advance on the road of democracy."

NLP Disagrees Over Visa

AU1304204990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1722 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/4/1990—The National Liberal Party [NLP] which considered King Mihai's coming to the country as untimely "in full election campaign" expressed disagreement with the government's measure of not granting entry visa to the king and his party considering it as "undemocratic".

In a communique relayed to ROMPRES news agency the NLP accuses the government that it tried to take advantage of that visit for electoral purposes proposing the king, several days ago, accomodation in a villa, a car and a personal guard, as well as an official programme. The king, the communique reads, refused the proposal expressing his wish that the visit be private, contrary to what Mr. Prime Minister said in his televised address on 12 April when he maintained that the king tried to give a political shade to his visit.

The National Liberal Party also reminds that it is not against a visit of the king after the elections when the socio-political climate is stablized.

Budapest TV Interviews Former King

LD1304224490 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1920 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Interview with former King Michael I by unidentified "Panorama" program reporter at Zurich airport on 12 April—recorded; former King Michael in English with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text] [Reporter] Are you not afraid to go to Romania in a couple of months? Are you not afraid for your safety?

[Michael] Well, some people call it to my attention. However, I have been involved in so many dangerous situations so far that I am completely used to things like this.

[Reporter] It is said by the front and Mr. Iliescu that you were deprived of your throne by a referendum. What is your reply to this?

[Michael] It is absolutely wrong. It was decided by the mighty themselves. The people of Romania were not asked.

[Reporter] Sir, I was in Bucharest last week, where I found a leaflet. Let me quote from it: Transylvania has been ours and it will be ours for all time. However, the holy Romanian land is still being dirtied by the filthy feet of Asian Huns and Gypsies." Unite, and let us chase them out of the country! Out with the Huns, the Bozgor's [bozgorok], who never had a hearth on this land! We

want a clean and great Romania! Now or never! Do not be afraid of fighting and shedding their filthy blood! Ceausescu did not live long enough to eradicate them, but our people cannot lay down their arms! We do not need a Switzerland! We do not need any kind of Europe! Only the Romanian language is master! We do not want to hear the grating of other languages; we do not want to hear a word of anything else, only the Romanian language!

What is your opinion on this?

[Michael] My position has always been very clear. Allow me to say that this is stone-age mentality. We are living in a modern era, we are part of Europe. Europe is organizing itself, and this kind of thing cannot be continued. We must live in peace with everyone, with every people within the country, too.

I never heard of Vatra Romaneasca before. Yet if it is this kind of extremist organization, I view it with antipathy. It is one thing to be nationalistic in the manner of loving one's homeland, yet this kind of hatred is an entirely different thing.

[Reporter] On the leaflet it is said that they do not want any kind of Switzerland. Well, you, as the former voivode [vajda] of Alba Iulia, are well acquainted with Translyvania. Do you think that seven per cent of the population of Romania is able to attack 90 percent? Are the Magyars capable of attacking the Romanians?

[Michael] In my view, what we have recently seen is provocation.

Iliescu Accuses Hungarians of 'Impatience'

LD0804225290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 8 Apr 90

[Text] Ion Iliescu, president of the Romanian Temporary National Council for Unity accused the Hungarians of impatience. In the Romanian daily MAGYAR SZO, Iliescu said it was dangerous that the declaration accepted on 11 March at Temesvar [Timisoara] stressed the need for the self-determination of the Bansag [region of Transylvania] and Temesvar.

According to Iliescu there are some people, both inside and outside Romania, who are trying to promote the idea of the independence of Erdely [Transylvania] and this was the cause of the hostilities breaking out after the revolution, between Romanians and Hungarians. The Romanian leader stated that in the present situation extreme behavior on either side prevents the country calming down.

Military Helicopters Said Circling Transylvania

LD1504212690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 15 Apr 90

[Text] The situation is still tense in Transylvania. In past days, and also today, Romanian military helicopters have been circling above Transylvanian towns inhabited by Magyars. Reports about this have arrived from Cluj, Miercurea Ciuc, and Satu Mare. The appearance of the helicopters only increases the anxiety in Transylvanian towns inhabited by Magyars all the more, because the Vatra Romanesca organization continues to spread news about threatening actions.

Securitate Said Under Interior Ministry Command

LD1304215890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1920 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Victor A. Stanculescu by unidentified Budapest TV reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] The Securitate has its hands in many base things, now too; yet, up to now, we could only speculate how the new Romanian regime was handling the secret police. How many of the old Securitate cadres remain? How many of those who were kept are working, and where? Now, we have the unique opportunity to be informed by the most competent source, the Romanian national defense minister, himself, about what happened with the securitate men.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What is the situation now? Under whose command does the Securitate organization function?

[Stanculescu, in Romanian with superimposed Hungarian translation] In practice, three phases could be distinguished. In the first one, the Army took over the Securitate. This was followed by another phase when the Army screened, purged, and removed from it all those whom it judged as having been compromised. We have released official data on this.

Then, by group and service branch, we combed through the entire body. We felt that the purpose of the defense and police gorups were for them to safeguard determined spheres. I am referring here to factories of strategic importance, warehouses, state reserves. Thus some three weeks after we completed this screening, we handed these over to the Interior Ministry, so that they should again end up in the customary defense and police system. By then we had removed certain people from their positions as commanders. We handed over to the Interior Ministry only those whom we judged to be worthy of continuing their work. Supervision and control in the future will be the task of the Interior Ministry.

However, we were the ones who carried out the first, let me say, purging. Moreover, we abolished certain special services—such as, for example, the fifth directorate which personally guarded the former Political Executive Committee and the Ceausescu family. We also abolished the fourth directorate of military counterespionage, because this, properly speaking, was the means of supervising the Army by the Interior Ministry, or the Securitate. Thus, we removed everyone from there.

As for the other, the branch pertaining to state security, which, in every civilized country guarantees the safeguarding of the state and the various organizations, at the end of last month, after the appropriate decision and approval, the organization which we call the Romanian information service was officially formed out of these. Therefore, this is the situation. We have removed nearly 70 percent of the staff—those whom we felt had compromised themselves. We have retained 30 percent of the experts, especially those in technical spheres, and we have supplemented them by some 50 percent from cadres in the National Defense Ministry. [end recording]

Government Legitimacy, People's Confidence Viewed

AU0404093390 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 28 Mar 90 pp 1,2

[Cornel Muresan article: "Trust Has To Be Regained Constantly"]

[Excerpts] Until 1 February 1990, as long as the government adopted decisions (decrees and decree-laws) aimed at de-Ceausescuization, the consensus reached on its provisional legitimacy makes it function almost faultlessly. However, the decisions on the reconstruction—which can be viewed from the angle of different concepts of the future—can no longer ensure a faultless functioning of the government, especially since everybody knows (and should never forget!) that it is provisional!

Therefore, we should not hope for more than can be expected! [passage omitted]

For instance, those who have received a pay increase by applying pressure and not by appropriately increasing their labor productivity will realize what they have in fact achieved...inflation. Surely, demands for a pay increase are an incontestable human right. However, if the pay increase is not coupled with an increase in the volume of goods produced (and if the figures published by the National Statistics Commission are true, the volume of goods decreased) the only demand that is satisfied—through the pressure of strikes—is an increase in pay without the required increase in production, that is, a deterioration of the standard of living! [passage omitted]

Those who govern should not exceed the tasks of their provisional status. [passage omitted] By adopting decisions which do not fall within their competence—and by adopting some in an incompetent way—the confidence of a large part of the people in any government may deteriorate to such an extent that the difficulties of future governments—not only of the immediately following one—will be multiplied artificially. In any case, there are numerous people who believe that the government is doing just that...on purpose.

Up to 1 February 1990 the National Salvation Front Council adopted in rapid succession a number of impressive decrees and decree-laws, some of them indisputable, others exceeding its competence (as was the case of the "National Anthem"). [passage omitted]

Ever since the Provisional National Unity Council came into being, the speed of the adoption and the number of laws has decreased to the point of almost being blocked, which again may give rise to all sorts of interpretations. [passage omitted]

You do not believe that the slowness and hesitation of the executive bodies (like the hesitation of the police in connection with the 18 February acts of vandalism) could be the responsibility of the Provisional National Unity Council? Why do we need (one can hear those who posed as "miners" say) a Provisional National Unity Council, which—ever since it has also incorporated the parties (apart from the National Salvation Front, of course)—slows down the activity of our "dear" government to the point of almost blocking it!?!

Everybody, especially the executive bodies, have to be reminded again and again that not only is their legitimacy provisional, but that they have to regain our trust constantly! Every single moment! [passage omitted]

CDU Leader on Election Resource Disparities

AU1004081890 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 30 Mar 90 p 3

[Interview with Vladimir Fulger, vice president of the Christian Democratic Union, by Ion Stoica; place and date not given]

[Text] [Stoica] Mr. Vladimir Fulger, I am interviewing you in your position of vice president of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU]. Would you please briefly outline the goals of this political group which you are representing?

[Fulger] We are trying to achieve a Western style democracy where the Christian democratic parties have proved that they are able to ensure decent and civilized living conditions against a democratic background.

[Stoica] What does the name of your party signify?

[Fulger] We are Christians and admit all Christians to our party. We have inherited this creed from our predecessors. At the same time we are a party of lay people, meaning that we are not turning this party into a church and we are not adepts of bigotism.

[Stoica] What is the origin claimed by the CDU?

[Fulger] We are a new party; we have had no time to make mistakes nor be involved in our country's disaster in the past 45 years. In our view, Christian democracy is the best political orientation.

[Stoica] Which has—we believe—certain peculiarities in our country.

[Fulger] Certainly, we apply what has proved to be positive to Romania's conditions, which are difficult and

precarious. We are trying to cut a true Gordian knot and believe that there are chances of succeeding.

[Stoica] How many members does your party incorporate?

[Fulger] We do not have very many. We are in the stage of getting organized and we are encountering great difficulties. Certain conditions have been created for us but with... obstacles.

[Stoica] Is it possible to provide more details?

[Fulger] All parties have started from nothing, while the National Salvation Front [NSF] has at its disposal all the structures that existed during the dictatorship, such as headquarters and billions of lei.

[Stoica] Is that so?

[Fulger] The funds of the Romanian Communist Party have been taken over by the NSF.

[Stoica] This is what you say. I know that something else has been announced.

[Fulger] I believe that the unequal conditions have been created deliberately. As for headquarters, we have been allotted four rooms into which it rains. We have received 200,000 lei out of which we have to pay the rent and running costs. This sum is minute.

[Stoica] In an open letter addressed to the Romanian people you hold that the expected democratic and constructive dialogue between the people and government has not set in....

[Fulger] There are numerous arguments. I will, however, just talk about procedures in connection with the Election Law. Initially this law was worked out under the aegis of the NSF Council. Not all parties incorporate specialized lawyers. And even if they have them, the time granted to the party representatives at the sessions of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC] is too short to seriously discuss everything involved. Another aspect: people will be able to cast their vote up to 2100 hours [1800 GMT] and thus the ballot boxes will be transported after dark. We recall the experience of 1946 which is a telling example for maneuvering the poll. Therefore, 1800 hours would be a better time.

[Stoica] What do you think of the role of the trade unions in Romania?

[Fulger] I view it as very important and therefore I am for their participation in the elections and in the Parliament.

[Stoica] However, they say they are nonpolitical organizations.

[Fulger] Yes, but they are able to create a balance between state power and the working people. In the sense that they contribute to amending measures that would affect the latter.

[Stoica] What is your opinion about the wave of strikes?

[Fulger] This is normal, although it is not useful. These strikes are caused by the ambiguity of the government. It makes statements which a few days later it cancels; it makes promises which it does not honor. Apart from this, the people do not want the communists in power.

[Stoica] In the letter I mentioned, you ask several questions, two of which are: Where is democracy? Where are the truths? Can you elaborate?

[Fulger] Where is democracy in conditions of an imbalance between the NSF and the parties? In connection with freedoms, they are restricted as long as the government has not undertaken anything to make known the truth about the terrorists and to what extent they pose a threat. Fear persists as long as no one knows whether they still exist or have been eliminated.

[Stoica] What do you think of the date for the elections?

[Fulger] It has been deliberately set to disfavor the opposition parties. There is not enough time for the voters to become acquainted with the parties' platforms to be able to express their options. It would have been better if elections had taken place in November.

[Stoica] Do you think that foreign observers are needed at the 20 May elections?

[Fulger] This is a must. Even the technical operations should be entrusted to foreign specialists.

[Stoica] Would it not be too costly?

[Fulger] Would it not cost more if the credibility of free elections were not ensured?

[Stoica] Have you thought about possible participation in a coalition?

[Fulger] Yes, with the democratic parties, the National Peasants Party [Christian Democratic], the National Liberal Party, the Peasants Party, and the Social Democratic Party. And, undoubtedly, with others whose structure and programs prove to be democratic.

[Stoica] Have there been talks in this respect?

[Fulger] Only with the social democrats, because we were short of time. I have a feeling that the other parties would agree as well. It is a mistake that nothing has been done. We would have counteracted the position of the NSF somehow and—after reaching a common position—we would have shortened the time of discussions in the meetings of the PNUC. However, it is not too late yet....

[Stoica] A last question: Does any social category prevail in your party?

[Fulger] We are not a class party. I want to specify that we do not reject the former members of the Romanian Communist Party except for the guilty ones. We believe

that many people have been misled and thus accepted that doctrine because they had to. We have to distinguish among various types of guilts. We welcome those who did not belong to the nomenklatura to join the CDU.

[Stoica] If they are satisfied with your platform....

Writer Dinescu Interview on Political Situation

AU0504122390 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 5 Apr 90 p 19

[Interview with Mircea Dinescu, chairman of the Romanian Writers' Association and member of the transition government, by Adelbert Reif; place and date not given: "Blood and Tears for a Little Interest on the Part of the West"]

[Text] [Reif] Nearly six months have passed since the fall of the Ceausescu dictatorship. If you were to look back at the revolution, how would you assess the political development in your country?

[Dinescu] Of course, I also belonged to the 20 million mystics who wished that God would call Ceausescu home. Finally, it was not God who called Ceausescu home, but something fantastic happened: The Romanian people drove Ceausescu away.

Unlike Czechoslovakia or Poland, there was no organized resistance in Romania. We had a Latin-American-type dictatorship, based on a Stalinist system, and with influences from North Korea. The revolution came completely unexpectedly. There were only five or six dissidents, including myself, who were of some importance. We were "private dissidents," one could say. We were completely isolated from the population and from each other.

[Reif] There have been reports in the West recently that the overthrow of the Ceausescu regime was no revolutionary act but a coup in which a new elite seized power over the people....

[Dinescu] I assure you that this is completely wrong. I would stake my life on it. The Securitate and all the other forces who are suspected of having prepared a coup were too firmly integrated in the system during the Ceausescu era. They did not have the slightest interest in changes. They lived like gods whereas the majority of the population was starving.

[Reif] However, there is hardly any talk now of the people who helped bring abut the revolution.

[Dinescu] No, quite the contrary. Romania's problem is that weak politicians are too much influenced by the population. Just think of what happened a few weeks ago in Tirgu Mures, when bloody clashes took place between Romanians and members of the Hungarian minority. In every civilized country in the world, parliament would convene in view of such a tragedy. In our country, the parliamentary session was postponed. The incidents should first be investigated, politicians claimed. These are all signs of political infantilism. First I thought that I was the only amateur, but meanwhile I found out that all our politicians are amateurs.

[Reif] How would you characterize the "National Salvation Front?" Is it not the Romanian Communist Party in a "new guise?"

[Dinescu] I joined the "Front" on 22 December 1989. It was the unrest in the streets that led to the formation of this movement. There was great upheaval in the streets, and shots were still being fired in Bucharest at the time. However, this "Front Council" succeeded in coordinating the various activities. Iliescu and the officers saw to it that things moved in the right direction. I think that describing this "Front Council" as a "conspiracy of former communists" is an inadmissible exaggeration. It is true that individual figures participated in the revolution and occupy leading positions in the "Front" now, such as Iliescu. However, it would be exaggeration to assume that he wants to reintroduce communism. I think he is a very suitable man for the transition government. The problem is that we have no possibility of delimiting ourselves from our opponents. It would be good if the Communist Party still existed in Romania.

[Reif] To what extent do the old communist structures still exist?

[Dinescu] One cannot ignore the danger that, although the monster was decapitated, its body continues to exist. Communism has caused thoroughly organized chaos. It is impossible to implement new structures within only a few months. The hierarchy of values was destroyed in socialism. In Romania we had a hierarchy of stupidity. To make a career one had to pretend that one was stupid. There were really quite intelligent people that pretended that they were stupid and thus got to the top of the party. There were even good writers who wrote articles that said nothing and imitated the coarse, slogan-like language in which the articles that praised Ceausescu had to be written.

[Reif] You once said: "For 20 years we pretended that we were communists. Now there is a danger that we pretend that we are democrats." This reflects very little confidence in the development of Romania toward real democracy.

[Dinescu] Well, it is true that there is this urge to imitate everything, an urge that makes really positive developments so difficult. One must not forget that Romanian communism was a kind of Balkanized fascism combined with the organizational structure of the Sicilian Mafia. In the same way in which we imitated communism, we will now imitate anticommunism and democracy.

[Reif] Earlier you already mentioned the bloody clashes between Romanians and members of the Hungarian minority. Do you think that nationalism and chauvinism are the greatest dangers for democracy?

[Dinescu] The tragedy is that we did not only inherit Ceausescu's dead body, but also the dead body of Romania. History, which stood still during 40 years in this country, has now inhaled new life. Together with the good, which was washed to the surface through the revolution, the evil has also resurfaced. I thought that the population would reject any kind of nationalist tendencies. However, this is not the case. I can give you an example from my own family: My great-grandmother is 90 years old and very pious. Once I talked to her about Jesus, and she would tell me the following: Jesus was a good Christ, a decent Romanian, and the Jews nailed him to the cross. Then she looked at me with suspicion and said: It will have a bad influence on you that you always mix with your Jewish friends.

[Reif] How deep is the gap between the intelligentsia and the workers in Romania?

[Dinescu] Communism even fed on this artificial gap that exists between workers and intellectuals. Behind this is the old Stalinist school. Stalin has always tried to play the various social strata against each another. We have inherited this artificial antagonism. It is true that it did not exist in December 1989, when workers and students took to the streets side by side in Timisoara and Bucharest. Yet, as early as January 1990, this antagonism became noticeable again, when the "Front" called miners in to Bucharest against demonstrating students.

[Reif] You once said: "It was important to overthrow the dictator. Now we need time." How much time will Romania need to create democratic, civilized conditions and to move toward Europe."

[Dinescu] At first I thought that we would need less time to reestablish European conditions. It is true that we overthrew the dictator. However, the dictator within ourselves is still alive. I am disappointed at the slow pace of developments.

[Reif] Romania is now facing the first democratic elections after world War II. What will the concrete consequences of these elections be?

[Dinescu] I am not a prophet, and therefore I cannot predict what the situation will be like in Romania in one month from now. There are very strong traditional parties, which were reestablished after the revolution. Yet I do not have the impression that they are representative. The National Peasants' Party has many members who used to be active in this party before and had to go to prison for it. Yet whose representative is it today? Does it represent the peasants, who have worked in collectives for decades, or a couple of hundred thousand of old people and women, who have nothing to do with this party at all? The same applies to the Liberal Party.

As far as the "Front" is concerned, it enjoyed great sympathy at the beginning. Since the moment it declared itself a party, things have changed. I think the best would be to form a grand coalition. We are fed up with being governed by a single party.

[Reif] You are not a politician but a writer, and you are even president of the Romanian writers' association. What is your work like in the current situation?

[Dinescu] The fact that I became chairman of the Romanian writers' association is of course a result of the events of 22 December 1989. When I agreed to assume this office I started from the assumption that our major task would be to liberate the writers' association from any kind of political tutelage. Our association had to become once again an independent, national institution. I think that I succeeded in attaining this objective in the past three months. Nevertheless, today the writers' association is not an "apolitical" institution. Since it has a publishing house and issues several literary magazines, it also has the obligation not only to help shape cultural life but also to exert an influence on the development of our country.

[Reif] Have you managed to establish contacts with other countries?

[Dinescu] We have established contacts with a number of writers' associations and similar institutions abroad, both in West and East Europe. This process of our reintegration is of course still in an initial stage. However, there have already been official talks between Romanian and Hungarian intellectuals without any interference by politicians. Besides, I am rather optimistic that many problems can be solved by writers and intellectuals, simply because of their many and varied contacts with the important democratic forces in West and East Europe. Individuals are better suited for this task than institutions.

[Reif] What is the condition of Romanian literature at this moment?

[Dinescu] Right now not a single author is writing literature, but we are all somehow politically active. These are not the times for writing poems or novels. This applies to me as well. I have not written a single line in three months.

By the way, until 1985 I was of the opinion that it was enough for a writer to express his resistance in literature, in his writing. However, then I realized that this is not sufficient, and so I joined the active resistance. Like many other Romanian writers, I also have a guilt complex caused by the feeling that we did nothing for the liberation and freedom of Romania, that we did not act. Now we have an opportunity to act. This is why I think that now is the time to act and not to write. In a poem I once wrote of the cowardice of writing poetry. Now I do not write poetry any more, but I act.

The minor literatures at the periphery of Europe receive only very little attention. Romania has always produced great writers, who remained completely unknown abroad or who managed to become successful in Europe only with the greatest difficulties, and mainly via France. Even now it is a reality that it is not Romanian literature itself that has become interesting, but that it has

attracted a certain amount of attention against the background of the political events in this country. This probably includes myself as well. After all, I have been writing poetry for 20 years, but abroad nobody ever showed any interest. It is sad that so much blood and so many tears had to be shed to attract a bit of attention for our literature on the part of the West

NSF Holds Nationwide Conference

AU1504142690 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 8 Apr 90 pp 1,4

[Ion Stoica article: "The Rose and the Applause"]

[Text] Undoubtedly, if I had to describe in a few words what characterized the first day of the first countrywide conference of the National Salvation Front [NSF], which began yesterday in the Radio-television Hall, the most appropriate and true to fact description would be that the proceedings were held under the sign of the rose [the NSF's election symbol] and applause; many roses, if we bear in mind that, on entering the hall, each of the more than 1,000 participants was given a rose. However, there was even more, a great deal more applause, bearing in mind the frequent disruptions, for this purpose, of the speeches by those who went up to the microphone, beginning with Mr. Ion Iliescu, who opened the proceedings. This means that he was the president of this movement, although he denied this position in several instances.

As was emphasized in the opening speech, the NSF as a whole attaches particular importance to this conference since it is an opportunity to mark the structure of this movement as a nationwide political formation. The same source informed us that Arad boasts the strongest organization of this front followed by Sibiu, Hunedoara, Giurgiu, and Cluj. This being said, the agenda itself was tackled. True, "influenced" by "technical faults," such as: The impossibility of showing a film before the beginning of the proceedings, Mr. Petre Roman's absence because of a government meeting at which he, obviously, had to be present, and the unscheduled interference of a voice in the hall saying: "Iliescu do not forget/Ardeal [Transylvania and Banat] is still your country." "Faults" which delayed the beginning of the conference by some 30 minutes. However, there are other such examples: The PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] meetings.

Let us, however, disregard such details. As expected, the major event was the speech by Mr. Ion Iliescu, who tried—and we think succeeded—to briefly review the NSF election platform. We believe that it is of interest to our readers to present some of the ideas of the speech, without commenting on them:

— We are in the position to choose our future and to build it. The framework was affirmed by the revolution as were such values as democracy, freedom, and dignity;
— The front bore the brunt at a crucial moment for our nation. The NSF is the only formation that has verified its political potential in the process of exercising power;
— During the days of the revolution the front represented the political organization that lent a special value to the notion of consensus;
— The front's political program incorporates realistic solutions on the basis of which this movement plays the role of a long-term modern political factor. It does not want to piece together our society, but to change it in general;
— Problems with which the NSF disagrees: that it was trying to preserve the former regime in a new form. On the contrary, it has decisively contributed to eliminating that regime; that it would like to hold political monopoly . However, the front has instituted and legalized pluralism; that it would not favor a modern economy based on the market mechanisms. On the contrary, it has already launched this process; that it would not want a real break with communism. Actually, it has already done so; that it restricts the possibility of being criticized in public. From the very first days of the revolution, the front facilitated the freedom of expression.

Naturally, the speaker attached great importance to economic and social aspects. The ideas voiced and solutions proposed were in keeping with the NSF conviction that solutions have to eliminate views smacking of the past. Such a return, it was emphasized, was not desired or possible; today's Romania was not Romania between the wars. What has to prevail is the democratization of society in all areas—economic, administrative, and cultural—along with increasing local automation. The model proposed by the front, it was emphasized before, takes account of the imperatives of the modern world, including, among other things, dismantling the totalitarian decision-making structures and replacing them with structures based on participation, eliminating the arbitrary aspect in decision-making, and decentralizing the power mechanism as a guarantee for individual freedoms. In the area of the economy, the main goal is building a modern economy based on the market mechanism. Swift action should be taken in this direction by avoiding, however, exaggerated risks and keeping under control certain negative phenomena such as inflation and unemployment. The presence of foreign capital is viewed as absolutely necessary for increasing the technical and competitive standard of Romanian products, while protecting the national interests and preventing a drain on the national income.

In conclusion, Mr. Iliescu emphasized that the front's program "is the only valid alternative for the Romanian people." With such a program, the speaker added, "the NSF is not afraid of the 20 May elections." This confirms what he said a short time before: "To march forward in freedom means to be less afraid." What remains to be seen, however, is the opinion of the great majority of the political groups involved in the elections,

which, for them, are also taking place on 20 May. However, some of them still do not even have their own headquarters. Not to mention the same problem in the counties....

But, the election campaign continues. Each party is "marching forward in freedom" according to its possibilities, while fears are, obviously, inversely proportional. Well, what can you do, we all know about the lion's share....

But let us return to the conference proceedings. Mr. Iliescu's concluding speech was punctuating by lively applause. Numerous delegates mounted the dais and surrounded him. What followed was embraces, kisses, and, of course, flowers, roses, something that continued also while other speakers delivered their speeches and even when Mr. Dan Iosif proposed the following motto: "Up with the front so that communism may not reach it any more!" In other words, up with the rose!—the symbol of the NSF, which looked quite wilted by the time of the first interval. Could that be blamed on the frequent bouts of applause which, as is known, make the temperature rise? Anyhow, up with the rose! L'important c'est la rose. That is what a representative from Hunedoara County said, because "in the Jiu Valley the front does not encounter any problems. It is such a powerful force, that no one even dares lift his head." For, isn't it true... "to march forward in freedom means not to be afraid any more." On leaving, on a TAB [armored amphibious transport] near the conference hall there was a vase of tulips of all colors.

Today when the proceedings are to resume, will they be replaced by roses?

Center Democratic Group Leader on Elections

AU1204190090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1756 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Centre-Party Group's Option"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 12/4/1990—Professor Stelian Cinca, president of the Romanian Freedom and Democracy Party, is of the opinion that "it would be ideal were Mr Ion Iliescu to be elected Romania's president in the 20 May elections and the NSF [National Salvation Front] not to obtain the necessary number of seats in the parliament to form a monocolour government. Thus both a political and sentimental balance would be struck for those who see Mr Iliescu as the necessary leader," he argued in an interview granted to ROMPRES news agency. "The parliament would adopt democratic measures and would curb Mr Iliescu's leftist orientation. And vice versa, Mr Iliescu, with a long and well-known political experience, would moderate the too obviously rightist tendencies that could manifest in the parliament. Here is a solution of quiet and stability we suggest to the electorate."

In connection with the setting up of the Centre Democratic Group, Mr Cinca said:

Following pertinent and laborious talks, several political parties and groups, with similar platforms, got together forming the Centre Democratic Group which means that they will take part in the elections with common lists. The major goal of the group is to arrest the interest of the voters who are still undecided or do not accept extreme stands, who, in our opinion, make up the great majority of electors. If these voters opt for our platform, which is moderate, equilibrated and with common sense, the Centre Democratic Group will be able to play a particularly important role in the country's political future. We do not set ourselves to win a parliamentary majority, although we would like it, but a percentage large enough to prevent left or right groups from forming the future government without us. A democratic rule, in concordance with the aspirations of most of the citizens, would thus be possible.

FDP's Nica Leon Candidate for Presidency

AU1304182990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1720 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/4/1990—In a statement sent to the news agency ROMPRES, the leadership of the Free Democratic Party [FDP] announces it designated Mr. Nica Leon, its leader, to candidate for Romania's presidency. This political grouping belongs to the center democratic parties.

Mr. Nica Leon is the seventh nominee for the presidency of the republic. The other six are, as announced: Radu Campeanu (National Liberal Party), Ion I. Bratianu (Bratianu Liberal Union), Ion Ratiu (Christian and Democratic National Peasants' Party), Ion Iliescu (National Salvation Front), Gheorghe Popilean (Christian Republican Party) and Nicu Stancescu (Democratic Unity Party).

As for the latest nominee, it was announced today that a meeting of representatives of 14 county and Bucharest branches of the Democratic Unity Party approved of his candidature. A week ago representatives of other 20 counties did it.

Today, too, it was announced that the Democratic Agrarian Party, which held its convention on 11 and 12 April, decided to back Mr. Ion Iliescu' candidature.

CDNPP Nominates Candidates for Parliament

AU1404150290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1142 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 14/4/1990—The election campaign for the 20 May elections has entered a new stage: the presentation of candidatures for the two chambers of the Parliament. During a news conference held at hotel Bucuresti, the Christian and Democratic National Peasants' Party [CDNPP] forwarded the candidatures of Mrs. Silvia Badescu, journalist, and Mr. Vasile Radu, reader at the Academy of Economic Sciences, for one seat, each, in the future Parliament of Romania. The

event took place in the presence of Mr. Ion Ratiu, the party's nominee for the presidency, and Mr. Corneliu Coposu, leader of the party.

'New Society Party' Formed in Bucharest

AU1304145290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0903 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 13/4/1990—The Romanian New Society Party added itself to the list of Romanian parties. The party's steering committee is led by Chairwoman Cornelia Grecescu, a teacher at the St. Sava High School in Bucharest.

Mrs. Cornelia Grecescu is the first chairwoman of a party after the December 1989 revolution. Col. Gen. Vasile Petrut (retired) has been elected general secretary of the party.

Modern Democratic Movement Organization Set Up

AU1304162490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1207 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/4/1990—"The Modern Democratic Movement", a political organization of workers, peasants and intellectuals, of all creators of moral and material values has been founded in Craiova (South of Romania). Professor Paul Petre St.Popescu, the party Executive Bureau's chairman, stressed that its programme gives priority to measures for the consolidation and re-establishment of the new democratic structures, the consolidation of new social and law order to prevent any sign of anarchy.

As for the political life, the Modern Democratic Movement has in view a parliamentary republic, the separation of powers in the state and a two-chamber parliament. Territorial integrity, national independence and sovereignty, the promotion of good relations of neighbourliness, of peace and friendship, of collaboration with all states are the main targets of the party's foreign policy.

Aims of '21 December' Association Viewed

AU1404191490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0726 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 14/4/1990—The " 21 Decembrie " Association has been set up in Romania's capital as a public organization of the street fighters against dictatorship in Bucharest on 21 December 1989.

The association does not have a political character, it will not become involved in the struggle for power, nor will it support the platform of any political party or any of their candidates. What it will do however, will be to take position against any action, whoever it may come from, that violates the principles of democracy and of the universal declaration of human rights.

Outlining the aims of the organization at a press conference, leading members of the association said that the participants in December's revolution pursued to topple not only Ceausescu's dictatorship, but also the totalitarian communist system, its structure and mentality. For this reason, the speakers said, we will do all we can, by legal ways, by protest and only as a last resort, by meetings, in order that the course of developments in our country make the ideals for which we fought in the December revolution come true.

Bucharest's " 21 Decembrie " Association plans to establish links with similar organisms and organizations in the country and abroad for the furtherance of its aims, it was also said.

Political Organizations' Leanings Analyzed

AU1404150390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0942 GMT 14 Apr 90

["Agora: An Image of Political Parties"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 14/4/1990—In a plea for centrism, writer Petru Clej makes the profile of Romania's major political organizations:

The National Salvation Front (NSF) is more to the left than it claims, but the slogan "NSF equals RCP" is largely an exaggeration. It is rooted in the generalized suspicion inherited from the old system, but it has also been fed by the ambiguous statements the leaders of this grouping made especially in the foreign press.

The Christian and Democratic National Peasants' Party (CDNPP) which considers itself centre leftist is more rightist than it claims to be, but the slogan "NPP-Iron Guardists" is another exaggeration though a trend of nationalism occurred within this party and the events in Transylvania made nothing else but emphasize it.

Other two "historical" parties the National Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party are still closer to the grouping of centre parties. They are made up mostly by intellectuals and have not always found the best way to explain their message to the electorate.

The centre parties' grouping is very heterogeneous and has been shadowed so far by the other large groupings.

It should candidate with a unique, genuinely centrist, platform, an intertwining of sociodemocracy with economic liberalism.

The Ecologic Movement is theoretically centre-leftist but here, too, there are centrist convergencies.

Economy Minister on Privatization Strategy

AU1404150690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1749 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 13/4/1990—A news conference was held at the Ministry of the National

Economy during which Mr. Adrian Severin, state secretary at the ministry, presented the government's strategy of privatization and the measures envisaged for a transition from a centralized economy to a market economy which became a national consensus after the December revolution. He specified that the foundation of the State Secretariat for Privatization under the Ministry of the National Economy evinced the priority the present government gives to the process of structural economic reforms apt to dynamize the privatization of the national economy. The task of this collectivity set up under a decision the government made on 23 March 1990 is to implement the privatization process, more particularly through collaboration in elaborating the specific legislation, and to step up the privatization process by stimulating the emergence of private enterprises, joint companies, firms and associations, with various forms of capital with a view to making socioeconomic activities profitable, Mr. Severin stated.

The idea that guides us is that we cannot decentralize while centralized and privatize while nationalized. We must pass as soon as possible to creating privatization nuclei by revitalizing existing joint companies, which could not prove their efficiency owing to a centralized economy, stimulating the emergence of private enterprises and protecting them, creating a complementary system among the large state units and the small enterprises, setting up production and trading societies with foreign capital.

Another strategic coordinate is to prepare the public sector for a transition to the private sector with a view to turning the present enterprises from administrative units into trading companies as well-defined entities. In the process of gradually passing to a market economy we shall try to drive external (material or financial) resources apt to help retechnologize branches without denationalizing the strategic sectors of the national economy.

Our main concerns now are to train managerial staff for whom we shall organize short-term training at companies abroad, set up consulting agencies apt to guide persons interested in creating forms of privatization, turn the investment bank into a development bank which should help as well as protect enterprisers through a system of credits meant to assist the investment needed to aid the private economic units.

Through everything we do we want to prove that the only direction we must act in future is to develop a market economy in which the private sector should hold the preponderant place.

Convinced that privatization is not an aim in itself but a means to build a market economy and find a way out from the systemic crisis inherited from the communist regime, our collectivity works for speeding up the government's programme of structural economic reforms, Mr. Adrian Severin said in conclusion.

Deputy Premier on Recovering Foreign Debt

AU1304164790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1556 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 13/4/1990—Romania has to receive from the foreign countries over 2.5 billion dollars, Mr. Ion Vatasescu, deputy prime minister, showed in a press conference attended by Romanian and foreign journalists. The receipt of these credits represents a serious problem for the government because of the current state of the economy. Taking into consideration the situation we are facing with but also the debtor countries' pay possibilities, he showed on, action was taken to solve that issue. So, after having negotiated with each debtor, Romania accepted goods as pay for those debts. Documents were signed with Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Egypt. Iraq has already sent the first quantities of oil worth of 65 million dollars per total and consumer goods worth of 35 million dollars per total. In its turn Libya delivers the first quantities of oil, while Egypt offers consumer goods and food. Egypt also convened upon some investments in tourism, accepting services for Romanian tourists.

Import-Export Firms Applications Received

AU1404151890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0906 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 14/4/1990—More than 250 applications for private foreign trade firms had been favourably advised by Romania's Foreign Trade Ministry until Friday 13 April. The import export firms will deal in commodities, services such as designing, consulting, tourism, and others. And this is just a beginning.

Imports:

Romania has imported 30,000 tonnes of soybean meal from Brazil and Argentina, 10,000 tonnes of fish flour from Peru, 2840 tonnes of coffee beans from Colombia. There are contracts for the import of 3,000 tonnes of sunflower oil and 24,500 tonnes of oats from Argentina, and for 2,000 tonnes of beef and 450 tonnes of tanning agents from Brazil. This year's imports from the same geographic area will include 2.2 million tonnes of iron ore and 2,000 tonnes of coffee (Brazil) and another 4,000 tonnes of coffee (Ecuador).

Exports:

Machinery and auto parts will be delivered to a number of Latin American countries: Subassemblies for an "Aro 10" four-wheel drive car assembly line in Uruguay, 300 farm tractors in Chile, 2.4 million dollars worth of roller bearings to Mexico, and spare parts for the trolley buses delivered over the past few years to Colombia.

Debt repayment:

Another 80,000 tonnes of crude oil were shipped by Libya and 16,500 tonnes of phosphates by Syria in

repayment of their debt to Romania. Discussions are under way with the Philippines to pay its debt to Romania in kind.

NSF Publishes New Daily AZI

AU1104123890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0931 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 11/4/1990—The first issue of the daily AZI, mouthpiece of the National Salvation Front [NSF], the honorary director of which is Alexandru Birladeanu, has been put out on April 11. The daily frontpages the picture of Ion Iliescu, president of the leading collegium of the NSF and his statement on his candidacy for Romania's presidency.

Ion Iliescu stresses inter alia: "What I can do is only to be always truthful to the program I have proclaimed and to which I have dedicated myself and not to thwart the hopes of those who believe in me". The daily covers the works of the NSF national conference and publish the front's proclamation to the nation.

The daily explains its name AZI (TODAY) as follows: "Just like the NSF the emanation of which we are, we will investigate the present reality, the country's reality of today, firmly, confidently and responsibly looking to the future". The daily carries such articles as "AZI on Elections—An Introduction to the Subject", "Transylvania as Romanian Land—the Question of Minorities", "Dissensions Within the National Peasant Party?", "We Need Houses", "Liiceanu's Paternalism", "The Liberals' Schisms in History", "Political Cynicism Over the Blood of the Revolution". The daily starts a series with Edgar Morin's novel "To Depart From the 20th Century".

NSF Issues New Scientific-Cultural Weekly

AU1104121690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0935 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 11/04/1990—A new political, scientific and cultural weekly NEAMUL ROMANESC (Serie Noua) (THE ROMANIAN NATION - New Series) has been published in Iasi by the National Salvation Front.

The editorial of the first issue says that the periodical will take action for the unity of the Romanian nation, for the conservation of its perennial values, for political pluralism, moral equilibrium and wisdom in all circumstances. The Iasi weekly "will strongly reject" chauvinism, violence and blind aggressiveness, whatever their source.

Foreign Ministry Considers Ties With Israel

LD1304180890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1522 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 13 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia intends to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, and it is up to the Yugoslav government and the country's constitutional organs to choose the form and date for that, Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Secretary Milivoje Maksic said at yesterday's [12 April] session of the competent committee of the Yugoslav Assembly.

High officials of the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry will soon travel to Israel in order to hold talks on the normalization of the two countries' relations, Maksic said, adding that the two sides would also use the opportunity for an exchange of views on the Middle East crisis.

Yugoslavia broke off diplomatic relations with Israel in 1967 following the Israeli aggression on Arab territories.

Yugoslavia's economic cooperation with Israel surpasses that we have with a number of European countries, Maksic said.

Yugoslavia is "unambiguously progressing towards relations with Israel," Maksic said, adding that all that remained was the choice of the concrete steps and time. What is involved is [words indistinct] possible protection of Yugoslavia, so that "one step does not spoil another," Maksic said.

Soviet Army Delegation Pays Visit

LD1104224690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1718 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, April 11 (TANJUG)—Croatian republican premier Antun Milovic today received a delegation of the Soviet Army, headed by Army General Vladimir Mikhailovich Arkhipov, deputy defence minister of the Soviet Union. The talks focused around mutual interests to expand bilateral cooperation.

In addition to cooperation with Yugoslav construction firms which are to build hotels, department stores and hospitals for the Soviet Army, the Soviet delegation was especially interested in imports of food items. Milovic emphasized that cooperation must be based on mutual interest and mentioned the possibility of the Soviet side being engaged in Yugoslavia for the construction of tunnels and gas pipelines, and in energy supply.

Kadijevic Meets Delegation

LD1404135190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1007 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 14 Apr (TANJUG)—The Soviet Army delegation headed by Army General Vladimir Mikhaylovich Arkhipov, deputy minister of defense, in the course of their official and friendly visit to our Armed Forces visited some institutions and installations of the Yugoslav People's Army and had talks with Colonel Gen. Josip Gregoric, deputy federal secretary for national defense, and his associates.

The USSR Armed Forces delegation was received today by Army Gen. Veljko Kadijevic, federal secretary for national defense.

Civil Aircraft Deal Concluded With USSR

LD1304225390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1335 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Apr (TANJUG)—The aircraft industries under the umbrella of the Association of Armaments and Military Equipment Industries of Yugoslavia have recently signed, in cooperation with Generalexport, an agreement with its Soviet partner, Avio-eksport, about the participation of the Yugoslav industry in the production of the new generation of Soviet civil aircraft. The volume of business should amount to $37 million over the next five years. The Belgrade-based Generaleksport announced this significant project today.

The enterprises Utva of Pancevo, Soko of Mostar, 21 May of Belgrade, Prva Petoletka of Trstenik, Orao of Rajlovac, and Jugoturbina of Karlovac are to take part in this program of long-term cooperation on the Yugoslav side. This significant deal, as Generaleksport stresses, is likely to be continued even after 1995 and to be extended to other areas of high technology.

Markovic Congratulates New GDR Premier

LD1304164390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1255 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Apr (TANJUG)—Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic has sent congratulations to Lothar de Maiziere on his election to the post of GDR prime minister.

Jovic Holds Talks With PLO's Salah Khalaf

LD1204202790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1250 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—Dr. Borisav Jovic, SFRY Presidency vice president, today received Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Palestinian leadership, who is visiting our country.

In cordial and friendly talks they discussed the current international situation, prospects for a peace process in the Middle East, and the activities of the Nonaligned Movement.

Further on PLO Envoy

LD1404024190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1900 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 13 (TANJUG)—The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and its branch Al-Fatah are not recruiting mercenaries anywhere in the world and would least of all do that in Yugoslavia, a country

which has supported the just struggle of the Palestinian people from the very beginning, PLO number two man Abu-Iyad (Salah Khalaf) told Yugoslav journalists on Friday.

He strongly denied any involvement of the PLO and Al-Fatah in recruiting mercenaries, as well as in the "alleged engaging of two Yugoslav girls for carrying out espionage in Israel." One of the girls was recently sentenced to prison by an Israeli court.

We have never interfered in the internal affairs of friendly Yugoslavia and never will, Abu-Iyad said. He ended his three-day visit to Yugoslavia on Friday [13 April].

"Every political move is an internal affair of each individual country," Abu-Iyad said in reference to Yugoslavia's possible restoring diplomatic relations with Israel. He declined to comment on speculations that the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries could help the Middle East peace process.

A high degree of concordance on major internatioanl problems has been expressed during the meeting, Abu-Iyad assessed. Yugoslav friends have demonstrated understanding for the PLO's diplomatic moves, he added.

All Middle East countries must observe international agreements on nuclear arms control, Abu-Iyad said referring to the sabre rattling between Israel and Iraq.

Speaking about the announced mass immigration of Soviet jews to Israel, Abu-Iyad pointed out that nobody should oppose their arrival if it was motivated by humanitarian reasons, but added that their settling in the occupied territories "would be a crime both against the Palestinians and the Soviet immigrants, because the move hides unimagined threats."

Further on Cypriot President's Visit

LD1204033190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1408 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—Major changes in Europe, which impose the need to search for a new system of collective security, were the main topic of the talks between president of the SFRY Presidency Janez Drnovsek and Cypriot President Yeoryios Vasiliou, who is finishing his three-day official visit to Yugoslavia today.

This is a priority issue for Cyprus, and President Vasiliou did not conceal his concern over the fact that positive developments in East-West relations had no influence on the situation in Cyprus, where a chauvinistic mood is exacerbating between two ethnic communities. In this regard, the high-ranking guest assessed that national exclusivity is not conducive to entering Europe. This has wider meaning than the Cyprus problem, and also applies to your country.

The lost balance in Europe, which so far had been based on the balance of power, should be replaced with a balance of interests, for which the CSCE process would provide a suitable framework, the Yugoslav side maintains. It was jointly noted that the exacerbated situation in Cyprus puts the atmosphere in Europe in jeopardy, and, thus, deserves that Europe, the United Nations, and the nonaligned countries make additional efforts to end the division on the island. Yugoslavia will, as before, be active in this direction.

In the course of the talks covering bilateral relations, it was joinlty stated that this visit by President Vasilious would give impetus to their further successful development. In this regard, the Cypriot head of state expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the talks with the Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic, which touched on concrete forms of economic cooperation, and the agreement on investment protection. Cyprus proposes that an agreement on sea traffic also be signed. [passage omitted]

Economic Cooperation Talks

LD1204033890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1553 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic and Republic of Cyprus President Yeorius Vasiliou had talks in Belgrade today. The talks primarily concerned strengthening and widening bilateral economic cooperation. They stressed the best method would be joint investments, production cooperation, tourism, and joint activities on third markets.

Markovic spoke about the program of the Yugoslav reforms and the Cypriot president said he held these reforms in high esteem, noting the results are already good examples. He said he had high regard for the activities of Yugoslavia as the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

Yeoriyus Iakovou, Cypriot minister of foreign affairs, and Nazmi Mustafa, federal secretary for trade, participated in the talks.

Vasiliou Ends Visit

LD1204034290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1954 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 11 (TANJUG)—Cypriot President Yeoryius Vasiliou left Belgrade on Wednesday at the end of a three-day visit to Yugoslavia.

The Yugoslav-Cypriot talks focused on the two countries' place and role in a new Europe, the strengthening of the process of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the activities of the non-aligned in the changed world situation.

Slovene Parties Not Ready for Cooperation

LD1404165190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1122 GMT 14 Apr 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 14 Apr (TANJUG)—Although before the elections all the parties in Slovenia promised to cooperate in joint preparations of the basis for the start of work in the Slovene Assembly in its new composition, now, immediately after the elections, it is quite clear that they have no intention of keeping their word.

Slovene Assembly President Milan Potrc is, as he says himself, disappointed with the unreadiness of the political parties in Slovenia to jointly prepare the basis for the work of the future Assembly. Until recently, each party first wanted to ascertain how large the voters' support is, Potrc stresses; now, after the elections, that reason for evading cooperation does not exist any more. The end of the week was the third consecutive time that the session of the group for the preparation of the Slovene Assembly's temporary standing orders failed to take place, because a quorum did not exist.

Demos 'Optimistic' About Election Results

LD1304230290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1211 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 13 Apr (TANJUG)—During their news conference today, Demos United Opposition presidential candidate Dr. Joze Pucnik and the newly elected Slovene Presidency members, Dr. Dusan Plut and Ivan Oman, began by thanking the electors who had voted for them.

According to Dr. Pucnik, Demos is winning because it has a majority in the Sociopolitical Chamber of the republican Assembly and, in all appearance, it will have a two-thirds majority in the Chamber of Municipalities in the Slovene republican Assembly as well. The forecasts for the Chamber of Associated Labor, for which the elections were held on 12 April, and the results will be known on 17 April, are very optimistic too.

Regarding the composition of the new republican government, Pucnik stressed that an agreement in principle had been arrived at within Demos and the upshot of that agreement is that the opposition will form the government.

Speaking at length about the new Slovene constitution, Dr. Pucnik said that despite the fact that they were giving every priority to the economic issues, the people in Demos did not neglect the issues of the first independent Slovene constitution, which is already in a draft form running about 15 pages with 165 articles.

We are pressing for a totally independent road of Slovene statehood and sovereignty, and this represents a stating point for the solution of all other issues. The starting point in the new Slovene constitution is the independence of the Slovene state and not the insistence at any price on secession. Hence, the fair demand for a Slovene army, said Dr. Pucnik.

Ivan Oman from the Slovene Peasant Farmer Union, a newly elected Slovene Presidency member, said that the parties had joined together in Demos to give life to the program objectives and that these objectives bind us together.

Dr. Pusan Plut, a Slovene Greens representative and a newly elected Slovene Presidency member, added that the Demos objectives are the same as the Greens' objectives. Speaking about the way the future Slovene Government should look, Dr. Plut said that it should be as stable as possible because serious national-economic and other tasks lie in store for it. The Greens also advocate the idea that the government should be broader than the parties affiliated in Demos.

Answering the questions put to him by the journalists, Dr. Pucnik said that he was not going to specify names for the government until election results and the balance of forces in the legislature have become known. The starting point is a realistic balance of forces, and we will be acting in a pragmatic way. The government must be stable and must have a specific reserve in the legislature. Commitment to the program is the second principle and in this context we are, in principle, open to all political parties willing to support our program.

Asked to comment on the statement by De Michelis and Vranitzky, who sent congratulations to Milan Kucan, Dr. Pucnik said that he did not attribute any special significance to them, while Dr. Plut added that at the moment these statements did not help Yugoslavia and that they were inappropriate.

Pucnik Discusses Demos Plans, Constitution

AU1304155090 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1330 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] United opposition presidential candidate Joze Pucnik has stated that the opposition has a majority in the Sociopolitical Chamber, and it most probably also won two-thirds of votes in the Communal Chamber, so that speculation about a disintegration of Demos is unjustified. As Gojko Brvar reports, Joze Pucnik even predicted a long life to the coalition.

[Brvar] Demos will stay together until the basic points of the election promises and aims are realized. The central point of these aims is a new Slovene constitution, which will have the following elements: local autonomy, a future single-chamber parliament, setting up public services on European principles, a renewal of a conventional parliamentary deputy term, the protection of human rights and freedoms, and the preservation of cultural and natural wealth.

Demos obviously possesses a draft of the new constitution that was probably framed in the Constitutional Council because Pucnik spoke about tangible matters

today. The constitution should contain 165 articles, which is to say only 12 to 15 pages. According to this constitution, Slovenia should be an independent and sovereign state that could conclude treaties with other states, including Yugoslav states. Demos does not advocate secession at any cost, but it ties the fate of Slovenia to the establishment of a Slovene army.

As regards fundamental changes of the political situation in Slovenia, Demos assures us that key matters will not be decided without a referendum. People need not fear mass changes in offices, but the system must be radically changed, and changes can only be implemented by people. This one can ultimately understand as saying that Demos will appoint its people to key positions.

Asked about the rumors that the party that obtained the most votes, the Christian Democrats, will appoint the new premier designate, Pucnik answered in an indirect way, saying that the relative strength after the elections will certainly play a role, but it is too early to say anything for the time being because the final election results are not known yet.

The question about a possible civil war was also left suspended in air. The Demos people themselves asked it and also answered it themselves. They say that there is no such danger, but if civil war breaks out, no blame will be put on Demos. In this way, they indirectly pointed to Serbia as the potential source of crisis. Anyhow, the outcome of the Croatian elections will probably contribute to the decisions on all the matters.

Demos assumes as one of its basic tasks to check decisively the outflow of Slovene money to other republics and the federation. According to its data, Slovenia's share in the $6.27 billion joint Yugoslav stake is between $1.3 and $1.4 billion. The new ruling team should firmly check this outflow.

Slovene, Croat Opposition Says Yugoslavism 'Dead'

AU1104120990 Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE in Serbo-Croatian 8 Apr 90 p 2

[Z.O. report: "Common Aims of the Croatian Democratic Community and the Slovene Democratic Alliance"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 7 Apr—As we have already reported, representatives of the Slovene Democratic Alliance (France Bucar, Dimitrij Rupel, Janez Jansa, Rajko Pirnat, and Tone Persak), the Croatian Democratic Community (Franjo Tudjman and Dalibor Brozovic), the Christian Democratic Alliance of Croatia (Stjepan Herceg), the Croatian Peasants Party (Zvonimir Cicak), and the Croatian Party (Hrvoje Sosic) met in Otocac on 13 April and jointly adopted and signed a statement in which they declared their intention to continue to cooperate more closely because they are "linked by a common aim—the democratic setup of society."

It is pointed out in the statement that all parties are interested in "the rights of their peoples to their own statehood and sovereignty," because they are "confronted with the pressure of the same political and economic relations created by the present ideology based on the foundations and ideology of real socialism, as well as the resulting real unitarianism of the existing SFRY, which, being as it is, acts against the aims of these peoples."

The statement stresses the following in particular: "The idea of Yugoslavism, which originated on the territory of the present Slovenia and Croatia, is dead.... In fact, Yugoslavia has already fallen apart. Only its outer shell remains and this is being maintained only by means of physical force. Confronted with this fact, our two peoples are forced to search, each by itself, for new forms and possibilities for their own lives." The statement goes on to say that the Croatian Democratic Community and the Slovene Democratic Alliance are starting from the right of their peoples to their state independence, which includes the right to make sovereign decisions concerning relations with their neighbors. It is said in the statement that, because of federal state structures, above all the federal administration and the Army, which are based on the continuity of a state that is incapable of surviving and is working against our peoples' intentions toward independence, the Slovene Democratic Alliance and the Croatian Democratic Community will work to realize the sovereignty of their peoples. The statement concludes with the demand that no revision of the SFRY Constitution should be made or forced and that "all attempts at carrying out economic reforms with a view to maintaining the existing unacceptable federal political system in Yugoslavia should be halted.... The Slovene Democratic Alliance and the Croatian Democratic Community will work to achieve their aims by all democratic and political means. They will resolutely oppose any threat of armed force and other forms of ntimidation. Both parties express readiness to cooperate with any political party or coalition that accepts the same aims."

As the famous General Drinjanin once put it: "One should apply all means to undermine Yugoslavia— words, knives, daggers, and firearms." It is in this sense that these "democrats" have met and, instead of offering a future, they they are offering civil war to people who, until yesterday, did not even know the names of these "democrats" and particularly to those people who enabled them to make such proposals freely and publicly.

Warning of 'Electoral Manipulations' in Croatia

LD1204221490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1431 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Zagreb, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—The Croatian League of Communists [LC]-Party of Democratic Changes has warned today of the electoral manipulations of some parties aiming at attracting voters. This is particularly evident in the field of the economy, where

the parties' moves are sometimes incorrect and undemocratic, and therefore impermissible and extremely unprofessional. [passage omitted]

Turning to the charges brought against Dr. Joze Pucnik, Branko Caratan, Croat LC-Party of Democratic Changes Central Committee member, recalled that all state bodies, including the Army, should refrain from any interference in the elections that brings into question the democratic procedure. We are not going into the intentions, but we have to say that such a charge objectively brings into question the position of the Slovene LC-Party of Democratic Renewal, and as a result it undermines the chances of the democratic left-wing forces primarily in Slovenia, but also in Croatia and elsewhere.

Caratan expressed his conviction that the Slovene voters, as well as the candadates, would find the strength to resist possible manipulations in connection with this case, and his conviction that there are no real grounds to be afraid of intervention by the Yugoslav National Army, whose supreme commander is the SFRY Presidency. [passage omitted]

Racan Addresses Istria Communists

AU1304112490 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Apr 90 p 4

[Z. Tarle report: "Life Will Not End With the Elections"]

[Text] Pula—The Communists of Istria have held their assembly at the ancient Arena [Roman amphitheater in Pula]. The meeting should provide an answer to the question of what the Communists of this region—and the region's political significance has been growing lately—are fighting for in the Croatian election campaign and what they are fighting against. There were about 5,000 people at the assembly. On the day before this meeting was held, representatives of the Istrian Democratic Assembly [Istarski Demokratski Sabor, an Istrian regional party] replied to attacks by different political parties that were accusing them of favoring autonomy and autonomism [autonomastvo] on Istria. Today, the Communists of Pula and Istria presented their views on both the future of the region as a part of Croatia and Yugoslavia and the prosperity of the region itself.

Ivica Racan, president of the LCC [former initials of the League of Communists of Croatia]-Party of Democratic Changes, was greeted with ovations when he addressed the meeting:

Along with people's joy at the prospects of democracy, there are still some anxieties being spread on the eve of these democratic elections in Croatia and there are attempts to incite a psychosis of fear that the reformist processes that have started may be halted and that democracy may be suspended. Such an atmosphere is created by separatist and unitarianist forces. This is why one has to state resolutely here and now that the LCC-Party of Democratic Changes opposes any extremism and adventurism and it will not play with the destiny of people and nations. We will defend the initiated democratic processes in Croatia unconditionally and to the end. It is the vital interest of the Croatian people to have our republic develop as an economically prosperous, politically democratic, and culturally progressive community. In order to implement this historic interest, we are ready to cooperate with all democratic forces in Croatia. In these crucial times for our homeland, we reckon on responsible, tolerant, and democratic behavior by all participants in political life: state offices and political parties, groups and individuals, Croats and Serbs, Italians, Hungarians, and Muslims.... We have said no to narrow-mindedness, but we now also say no to irrationality. We will also say no to any kind of totalitarianism.

We must adopt a critical attitude toward our and any other history, and quickly free ourselves from anything that is wrong and outdated. We are doing so at the moment, but we also must say that not everything in our history was wrong, one cannot spit at everything. We are not ashamed of our struggle for national and social liberation, for national affirmation and equality, and for peace among the people and nations. We are aware of the fact that despite all his mistakes, Tito has made an ineradicable historical contribution. Therefore, let us now tell everybody: You can criticize Tito, but you cannot eradicate him; you cannot take him away from us. As Rade Serbedzija has put it: We want to believe that that shameful trial of Tito in Valjevo is not Serbia.

Ivica Racan spoke in favor of offering support to new people in the coming elections. One would recognize these new people by their ability to say something about economic problems and the social and economic security of the people and by the fact that they offer peace and not discord and that they are against inflaming national feelings and passions. We may be able to understand that people whose deeds have not been seen are bragging in their promises during election campaign, but we cannot accept their doing so by inflaming divisions and hatred among the people, as if life is ending with the elections. Will we not be living after the elections, too? Are the people really going to forget the promises and their consequences? We are not offering irresponsible proposals; we do not agree to the redrawing of Croatian or Yugoslav borders and therefore our program does not offer definite solutions in which conflicts about borders, national clashes, civil unrest, and general existential insecurity would be the only definite thing. Changes are possible only when there is peace and security for everybody.

Racan Discusses Party's Chances in Elections

AU1304191890 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 8 Apr 90 p 7

[Interview with Ivica Racan, president of the Central Committee Presidium of the League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes, by Zoran

Daskalovic and Mladen Plese; place and date not given: "We Don't Think We Will Be Defeated"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [VJESNIK] Even though the LCC [former initials of the League of Communists of Croatia]-Party of Democratic Changes [PDC] was the only political party in Croatia to be prepared as regards its program and organization when it began its preelection and election activity, even it has had to change radically since the congress. Does the recent presentation of the program of the LCC-PDC in Zagreb show that you have successfully carried through these changes and that you are sufficiently prepared to enter the election finale?

[Racan] In these last few months, we have had to very quickly re-analyze and change all sorts of things in our programmatic stance and our political stands and, at this critical social moment, define as we go along what we are offering ourselves and others at this time of social crisis. We know that the congress itself was a definite surprise for many people. A strong reforming and democratic step really was taken at it. It defined the direction of the reform and democratic policy of the LCC that will need to be augmented even further. [passage omitted]

In these last three months many things certainly had to be done in constructing a democratic-reform programmatic platform that partly resulted in our electoral program. On the other hand, we made a whole series of political moves that demonstrated not only this reform and democratic strategy of our party but also its deeper transformation, which is under way. Much of this has also changed in the last three months so that I could even say at the public meeting in Zagreb that the party that had once been recognizable to you no longer exists. However, this does, of course, mean that more should be done on this party.

I would say that in these three months we have also managed to do an exceptionally large amount in facing this new historical situation in which we find ourselves and which we at least in part caused ourselves. At this dramatic time when the old system of socialism is disintegrating, it is certain that much is also changing quickly in the LC in the positive sense of the construction of a new party, a new view of things, a new programmatic identity and even, I would say, a new political sensitivity. To leave one sphere in which you had a political monopoly for a long time and find yourself now in the company of not only people but political entities that think differently and often challenge your own view or even want to eliminate it. [sentence as published] [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] What important changes in the LCC-PDC will proceed the elections and that can you envision even now?

[Racan] Regardless of the outcome of the elections, we will even more intensively continue to complete our program and political identity. This stage will certainly end with the future calling of the congress of the LCC, as a party of democratic changes. This is because we need to sanction at the congress all sorts of things contained in the changes that have been made in the daily political life of our party, but, on the other hand, we need to create even more opportunities for leading cadres that can keep pace with and create this new modern party. In this respect, we, the reformists are not enough, particularly looking at the vertical structure of our party.

We will probably also have to dot the "i's" as concerns the name of our party and clearly define the area that we think we will be occupying on the political scene—not being afraid if to the left and right of us there are those who do not agree with our program and our policy and who are even perhaps rejects from our ranks. This could even be a party with orthodox and dogmatic views that our party does not have. [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] Many people are predicting an electoral defeat for you. What in your opinion would constitute an electoral defeat?

[Racan] We have established two equal tasks. One is for us to contribute to a peaceful transition to a democratic order with a multiparty system. We are aware that this transition is full of dangers anyway, particularly under the economic and political conditions of a multinational Yugoslavia in crisis. If we are contributing to this peaceful transition with our orientation toward a multiparty system, then it is logical that this must be our first victory. We are already achieving one victory, which is perhaps the most difficult: We are decisively and profoundly changing ourselves.

We are aware that these are the first and not the last elections that we will be taking part in. By running in the elections from a position of power, we will—in contrast to the others—prove that we are prepared to accept all the consequences of these elections. The others have yet to give this proof and have yet to prove to what extent they really are democratic and whether there is a dichotomy between what they say and what they do. As far as we are concerned, we will prove at these elections that this dichotomy does not exist with us despite the criticisms that continue to be leveled at us.

A defeat for us would be if the democratic forces in Croatia—among which I am including us—did not gain a majority in the Assembly. In this case, this would be our defeat and, unfortunately, the defeat of democracy in Croatia. I would also say that this would push Croatia to the edge of the abyss or even into it. This is simply a case of whether the balance of power in the Assembly will allow us to carry through radical social changes in a peaceful way, or whether unrestrained national conflicts and the appearance of, for example, a new totalitarianism will prevent them. As Ljubo Boban so nicely put it, mindlessness would be enthroned instead of single-mindedness.

I must say that we are not reckoning with this defeat, and we think that by voting responsibly the Croatian people and citizens will determine the policy of the highest body

of authority in the republic and thus their more immediate destiny too. I think that the awareness is dawning that these elections are not like the ones that we have had so far, but they are more crucial because all manner of things will depend on their outcome. Even those who do not vote cannot avoid their possible consequences. It should also be borne in mind that some biased solutions that are being offered to Croatia are extremely incompatible with the general commitment to our entering Europe. Europe is not interested in Croatia and Yugoslavia as some kind of crisis point or crisis hot spot. Radical right-wing politicians who build and totalitarianize their policy in the name of the nation's interests, its homogenization, and the territorial distribution of a nation within natural borders and the like—regardless of whether we are talking about great Croatian nationalism or great Serbia nationalism—undoubtedly lead us into confrontation and a fall into the abyss that I was speaking about. I cannot believe that such a short-sighted policy would receive the support of the citizens of Croatia and, I would say, the citizens of Europe.

[VJESNIK] The demands are often heard that the LC should apologize to the citizens of Croatia for much of what they have done since the war. In your opinion, is there any reason for such a gesture by the LCC-PDC?

[Racan] Criticism of the past—which we support—is one thing but abuse of the past is something else, particularly at this politically overwrought time. This is something we do not support! We reject any collective guilt for specific errors and mistakes in the policy that we have had in some earlier periods, and we are particularly against this responsibility being borne by the present generation in the LCC-PDC. We also do not feel the need to defend ourselves against imputed collective guilt because those who are calling us to account often actually participated in this part of history: They were factors in it, in contrast to the present generation of people in the LCC-PDC. Apart from that, I think that it must be said that we reject something else that is being alleged in such demands and that is that everything was bad and everything in the past was wrong. We do not think this. Apart from that, we have very clearly said that precisely in this past we take credit for what we think was undoubtedly authentic in the democratic, generally humane, and liberational sense; that we also take credit for the heritage of the workers and communist movement that wrote illustrious pages in the struggle for social and national liberation; that we also take credit for what was in the past undoubtedly anti-totalitarian, that is to say, anti-fascist and anti-Stalinist. There is no reason to overlook these elements of our past. Every totalitarianism actually begins in this way: What was before it is seen as "nothing" or "everything was wrong" and what begins with it is "everything" and "final." The first step in this is the elimination of those who do not agree and do not believe, but have their doubts. [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] Is revanchism being prepared after the elections through the negative generalizations of the LC's history? How does the PDC think it will oppose possible revanchism and protect its members and sympathizers?

[Racan] Even now before the elections, we will be energetically against any form of revanchism. On the eve of the elections, we will insist that democratic legitimacy cannot be given to those who deprive anyone of the right to exist in a democracy. I think that we will have to start speaking about revanchism in this respect, particularly in the context of the idea that has been appearing that there can be no democracy as long as there are Communists. Is this not neofascist logic: There can be no democracy as long as there are Communists, as long as there are Serbs, as long as there are Jews, and while there are Croats who think differently.... I think that we will have to intensify the struggle against this line and that citizens will also have to decide from this standpoint who to give their vote to, assessing whether this will actually rebound back onto them. This does not constitute undemocratic means and this is no kind of political pressure, this is realistic considering the extent to which revanchism is now present and particularly considering what is being threatened "when we win power." [passage omitted]

[VJESNIK] What do you think: Will the election results determine the future position and fate of Ante Markovic as Federal Executive Council president and will they possibly decide whether the incipient reforms will be abandoned?

[Racan] Any abandonment of the incipient reforms would be tragic regardless of what or who initiates this and who contributes to it. Second, I cannot believe that the road to a healthy economy and democracy can be undermined in a pluralist system because the balance of power will be arranged in one way or another. This really is no particular argument for the level of democracy that has been reached regardless of who this concerns. Indeed, if this were a victory for what I would call anti-reform and anti-democratic forces—those who do not need democracy but power in the name of the people and the fulfillment of primarily national aspirations and who subjugate to this the position of the individual and the issue of democracy—a victory for this political option would objectively mean the fall of not only the Markovic government but also the fall of the policy of reforms. This would open up an unimaginable confrontation and create a crisis hot spot in Yugoslavia and Europe. [passage omitted]

Croat Communists on Army 'Interference'

AU1204191890 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Vesna Knezevic report]

[Text] The leadership of the League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes rejects interference by anybody—even if it is the Yugoslav People's Army—in the multiparty elections in Slovenia and

Croatia. This was said at the meeting the party's Presidium held with journalists. Here is a report by Vesna Knezevic:

According to Presidium member Branko Caratan, who was speaking objectively, the charges that the Army filed against the Slovene Demos candidate, Dr. Joze Pucnik, right between two election rounds, reduce the chances of the democratic leftist forces in Slovenia, and indirectly in Croatia, because the blow was in fact dealt to the Communist candidate for Slovene President, Milan Kucan. Slovene (?voters) will find strength to resist such manipulations, he added.

At the same time, Caratan pointed out that there is no need to spread fear of adventurism in the Yugoslav People's Army, that is, of possible Army interventions and repressions, because the SFRY Presidency is still the supreme command.

As concerns the situation with, as it was put, the so-called federal party leadership, Caratan denies the statement of Serbian Communists head Bogdan Trifunovic that the publishing of the letter, which was meant to be federal and was signed by the party organizations of Serbia, Montenegro, and the Yugoslav People's Army, was prevented in Croatia.

Your correspondent has learned that the letter was published in full in VECERNJI LIST on 8 April as an advertisement paid for by the Central Committee Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. By the way, VECERNJI LIST is a daily with the largest number of printed copies in Croatia and just recently no longer belongs to the VJESNIK house.

At this meeting, the leadership of the League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes also presented the foundations of the party's economic program that, as was said, is relying on the program of Ante Markovic's Federal Government.

Commentary Assesses Croatian Political Parties

AU1304085590 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 10 Apr 90 p 7

[Josip Jovic commentary reprinted from NEDJELJNA DALMACIJA; date not given: "Dead Heat"]

[Text] The preelection campaign in Croatia is drawing to a close. Only two weeks remain until the first round of the elections: The signed lists of candidates have been closed and submitted to the election commissions. Alliances have also been formed and everything should be done in the time that is left to weaken the opponent. Everyone has presented their program with more or less conviction and now all that is left to do is to make capital out of the mistakes and gaps in rivals' programs and candidates....

Making forecasts is, of course, a thankless task.... Nevertheless, let us attempt not to forecast who will win but what the pros and cons of the parties will be.

The League of Communists [LC]—it is, nevertheless, formed to start with the ruling party—gave a strong stimulus, particularly at its 11th congress, to the democratization of its own ranks and society as a whole, which is often forgotten. Were it not for this congress, it is questionable whether the present pluralist picture of Croatia would have been possible at all. Ivica Racan immediately showed that he was being serious at the federal congress, where he did not give in to being outvoted and to being a victim of democratic centralism, which prompted general sympathy among a large part of the public, but not among the Serbs in Croatia too. The LC is the heir to some positive political values that were created during and after the war, it offers the most peace and stability, and has shown that it is not nationally insensitive either.

However, on the other hand, the LC seems to be a slave to old formulas and general phrases concerning the resolution of interethnic relations and its demands do not seem to be up to the times or the expectations of the people. However, its greatest handicap is that despite the changes, mimicry, and the search for new ways, it still belongs to a world of communism that is falling apart due to a historical inevitability and that has run its course....

The Croatian Democratic Community, with an already formed national leader who is the match of Slobodan Milosevic, acts energetically, resolutely, and radically, without worrying at what price. It sets aims without asking about the means, it stokes up emotions, and speaks in a language that is understandable to everyone. It, therefore, particularly enjoys the sympathies of the wide popular mass and it has a large and disciplined membership that is ready to subjugate its own interests to the "higher" interests of the party. The vehement attacks that have been coming at it from all sides—and even the physical ones— have only deepened the support of its sympathizers and the loyalty of its membership. This mass party stresses national sovereignty as an unconditional issue and violently attacks all signs of the centralization of Yugoslavia.

What could be unpleasant as regards the Croatian Democratic Community and could cause aversion is the reaffirmation of some sort of "democratic centralism," the failure to recognize a diversity of opinion, and excessive showing off of power and influence. This community seems not to recognize anyone's right to "Croatism" and does not seem to be able to put up with anyone in its vicinity, so it seems that it puts its own party interests over the national interests that it invokes so much.

The Coalition of National Understanding has taken an equally firm stand as regards the national issue, the difference being that it stresses the retention of the present internal borders, and not interfering when it

comes to Bosnia and Muslims. It operates in a somehow more docile and reasonable way, which suits some people but not others. The coalition of several parties and their programs also indicates the breadth of interests and the various social strata that could support it. It has a special quality due to prominent charismatic political personalities of the "mass movement," not only because they are the victims of a repressive policy but also because they bring with them a real quality of experienced and wise politicians, which synthesizes different positions and which symbolizes the return of the "national awakening" that was interrupted by force. The weak point of the coalition is the latent danger of disintegration and an insufficiently prominent common identity.

So, we do not know who will win. Nevertheless, the most certain thing is that no one will be able to rule in the new assembly by themselves, but by the same token, consensus on the new Croatian constitution will be relatively easy to achieve. The possibility of the creation of new coalitions for the second round of elections has not been discounted.

Croat Coalition Holds Electoral Meeting

LD1104080190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2058 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Sibenik, 10 April (TANJUG)—An electoral meeting of the Coalition of National Accord [Koalicija Narodnog Sporazuma—KNS] was held in Sibenik tonight. Dr. Ante Kovacevic and Dr. Marko Veselica spoke before a rally of several thousand, and the Sibenik candidates for the Croat Assembly were presented.

Dr. Ante Kovacevic said that that Marko Veselira, Vlado Gotovac and Savka Dabcevic-Kucar, "the first flower of Croatia," make up the heart of the coalition and that "the Croat Wall" has recently fallen with Mate Mestrovic's arrival. We are pressing for parliamentary democracy and we want to go into Europe, where our place is, stressed Dr Kovacevic.

Dr. Marko Veselica stressed that Sibenik is "Croat gold" and that there have always been knights in Croatia wanting to save it.

We must rid Croatia of those who have polluted it, said Dr. Veselica, mentioning the names of Stipe Suvar and Jure Bilic in this context.

According to Dr. Veselica, the Croat people have had enough of the Yugoslav noose.

We do not want a war, but want the political police to be taken off our backs. We will not kowtow to Belgrade. Croatia must be free, said Dr. Marko Veselica during the KNS electoral meeting in Sibenik tonight.

Daily Views Quarrels Among Croatian Opposition

AU1004133690 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 6 Apr 90 p 4

[Seada Vranic report: "Coalition Strikes Back"]

[Text] Criticisms, needling, and hitting below the belt are showering down on all sides and indicate an extremely stormy end to the preelection campaign in Croatia. The parties' election headquarters that have more or less completed the work on embellishing their election image are now concentrating on discovering the weaknesses of the opposition and causing confusion in its ranks. The LCC [former initials of the League of Communists of Croatia]—Party of Democratic Renewal has been subjected to this kind of propaganda war the longest, and the Communists' election headquarters has become very proficient in sidestepping planted "mines" and obstacles.

For the public, which is already tired of programs and nice promises, the most interesting verbal war is waged between the Croatian Democratic Community and the Coalition of National Understanding. The way things stand at present, Tudjman's election headquarters has an obvious advantage that was gained because it dealt the first blow. The Croatian Democratic Community first opened fire on the "use" of weary politicians from 1971, whom Tudjman referred to as the people with Band-aid taped over their mouths because they kept quiet for years while others talked.

However, since these criticisms did not sufficiently threaten the Coalition, and since the "Band-aiders" are again rallying thousands of supporters, Tudjman's headquarters has obviously come to the conclusion that the greatest impact will be made if the member parties of the coalition are attacked individually, because singly they are nowhere near being worthy rivals for Tudjman (or for the Communists, of course), although they are a serious election threat under the tutelage of Savka Dabcevic-Kucar and Mika Tripalo. In line with the strategy of causing internal divisions, clashes were provoked in the Croatian Peasants Party that resulted in the founding of a dissident wing led by Cicak that fell into the embrace of the Croatian Democratic Community. The mainstream of the Croatian Peasants Party, or rather its president, Nikola Novakovic, struck back by calling Cicak an extremist and adventurer.

Tudjman was joined by the wing of the Croatian Christian Democratic Party led by Stjepan Herceg, whom the leadership of that party honors with the epithet "saboteur" while indirectly accusing Tudjman of being behind this "sabotage." Something similar is happening with regard to the Croatian Democratic Party led the Veselica brothers since, according to statements made by Tudjman himself, entire sections of the party are rushing to his party. The Veselicas denied this and again accused Tudjman of having Bolshevik methods and general's ambitions. Tudjman, on the other hand, says that he will not have corporals run his policies. Tudjman, judging by

the way he started, obviously does not intend to stop and will probably found his coalition under the name the Croatian Bloc, ignoring counterblows dealt by the Coalition of National Understanding.

In the election war, two other fairly attractive targets have been selected —Zagreb Television and Ante Markovic. All opposition parties are showering Zagreb Television with protests and criticisms and go as far as reproaching its journalists for omitting even a single comma. As regards Markovic, the ferocity of attacks has intensified because some pretentious party leaders regard this as a question of their national honor. Vlado Gotovac's already famous comparison of Markovic with the "fuhrer" and Markovic's program with the "fuhrer's" program has been enriched with an addition of Hrvoje Sosic, leader of the Croatian Party. He recently accused Markovic of "lying and misleading" because he allegedly deceived the public, saying that he enjoys international support that turned out to amounted "only" to some $600.000.

Vlado Gotovac, who had to swallow numerous criticisms for impudently attacking Markovic, has recently been trying to defend himself by claiming that he did not say what he was reported to have said, and that he was not referring to the fascists' fuhrer, but that he simply thought that Markovic was "leaning to centralism." One should not be surprised if in few days time Gotovac decides to deny this too, and accuse journalists for inventing it. After all, denying the statement that was heard by thousands of people and that was reported on television is an everyday phenomenon. The leaders of various parties do not hesitate at all to deny their own statements, convinced that in preelection races they will not have to pay for that. It would be interesting to compile a book of preelection "gems" and denials that would certainly become a bestseller.

Croatian Opposition Parties Against Markovic

AU1004084390 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 5 Apr 90 p 3

[Seada Vranic report: "'Coalition' Will Be Extended?"]

[Excerpt] Zagreb—Is an election alliance with the Coalition of National Understanding, as has recently been rumored in the public, a possibility? —a journalist asked yesterday the present candidates of the LCC [former initials of the Croatian League of Communists]—Party of Democratic Renewal for the Sociopolitical Chamber and the Chamber of Communes of the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Croatia.

The idea of election coalitions, Dr. Professor Ivan Siber replied, is incorporated in the foundations of the new law on elections, which envisions a two-round voting system in case no candidate wins a simple majority in the first round of voting. The Coalition of National Understanding was conceived in the spirit of this idea. As regards a possible election partnership with the Coalition of National Understanding, Siber said, so far nobody from the LCC—Party of Democratic Renewal has conducted talks or negotiations about this matter. Otherwise, the Party of Democratic Renewal has generally decided to support all candidates who offer a democratic program and democratic guarantees. As regards himself, Siber said that in his own constituency, the commune of Dubrava, if he finds himself in trouble, he will talk to other party candidates about a possibility of lending support to one another.

Why are opposition parties in Croatia attacking Ante Markovic when until not so long ago they all supported him?—this was the next question.

The answer was provided by Milan Gavrovic, a journalist with Zagreb Television who is himself a candidate of the LCC—Party of Democratic Renewal.

He said that the attacks are not accidental and that it is true that at the beginning all parties supported Ante Markovic. However, they withdrew their support when Markovic publicly said that his program of reforms coincides with that of the LCC—Party of Democratic Reforms. The second reason, Gavrovic continued, is much more significant. The parties that are attacking Ante Markovic basically disagree with his approach. They proceed from the collective—the nation and the nation state—which is already a familiar Bolshevik recipe, a recipe that was previously applied according to the class-state formula from which the parties derived the rights and duties of individuals. However, Markovic's program proceeds from citizen and primarily gives a chance to the individual citizen to solve his own problems with his own hands, knowledge, and skill, something that in turn solves the problems on the state level...

Several well-known journalists and a large number of scientific workers and university professors are on the list of candidates for Assembly chambers put forward by the LCC—Party of Democratic Renewal. The reporters wanted the journalists-candidates to say whether their involvement in politics is in conflict with their profession and the ethics of profession. Answers were provided by Jelena Lovric, Milan Gavrovic, and Gordana Grbic. [passage omitted]

Croat Election Procedures Explained

LD0904202290

[Editorial Report] Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1505 GMT on 9 April carries a 30-minute report on the upcoming Croat election, which will take place in 12 days. The parties have presented their programs, and now the interest revolves around the procedures of vote casting.

Two Croat Republican Electoral Commission members are in the studio to be questioned about several points of interest. They say that full election details, including parties taking part, candidates, etc., will be published by noon on 11 April. They also discuss the registration

procedure—for instance, all the details have to be entered in a proper manner and sequence. Yugoslav workers employed abroad must be home in order to vote. Men doing their military service can also vote, but they must present themselves in their own constituency. There is no such thing as postal vote, they say.

Asked whether they have been in touch with the command of the 5th Army Area in Zagreb to release the men, they imply that they had not had much satisfaction from that command, but they understand that the Army cannot simply release thousands of young people for that purpose. About the membership of the electoral commissions, they say that a party must contest at least 50 percent of the constituencies to qualify for commission membership. For instance, there are 80 deputies in the Sociopolitical Chamber of the Croat Assembly, and a party would have to contest 40 constituencies to qualify. In this context, they say that the Croat League of Communists will contest 73 Sociopolitical Chamber constituencies, while the Croat Democratic Community will have candidates in 71 constituencies.

Markovic Predicts Fall in Inflation

LD1404045590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2047 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Karlovac, Topusko, April 13 (TANJUG)—Prime Minister Ante Markovic has predicted negative inflation in Yugoslavia this month and in May and June, which will make it possible to relax monetary policy restrictions about the middle of the year.

In his talks on Friday with engineering industry managers and other executives at the Jugoturbina plant of Karlovac-Sisak region, Prime Minister Markovic spoke of the need for rapid restructuring of Yugoslavia's economy. He recalled that the World Bank last night decided to grant a 400-million-dollar loan to Yugoslavia for its structural development, and that a contract on this matter would be signed soon. With the 600 million dollars already granted by the International Monetary Fund, this makes one billion dollars allocated for the purpose and the job of restructuring Yugoslavia's economy should be tackled with resolution and as soon as possible, he stressed.

Prime Minister Markovic said that the country's foreign exchange reserves had reached 8.2 billion dollars. Besides this, Yugoslavia paid its foreign creditors four billion dollars in payments due on its foreign debt.

Markovic announced a possible lifting of bank limits and wage restrictions as part of the efforts for the market laws to start operating as soon as possible.

He also said that a review of the annual financial reports of the banks had started with help of the public accountancy service and a group of foreign experts, and that a rehabilitation of the banking system on the individual rather than global basis would be approached soon. Foreign expert De Juan, who worked on financial rehabilitation of 108 banks in various countries, has been engaged to deal with the problem of banks which should be wound up.

Markovic Speaks on Economic Reform

LD1304224590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1621 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Karlovac, 13 Apr (TANJUG)—In the course of the talks with more than 60 leading Yugoslav managers from machine-building and electrical engineering enterprises and, afterward, in Topusko with 200 businessmen from Karlovac-Sisak region, Federal Executive Council [FEC] President Ante Markovic, today at the Jugoturbina works in Karlovac, underscored the need to lower prices to their real value in order to obtain both funds and incomes. For their part, the businessmen almost without exception stressed the high degree of illiquidity as the most prominent difficulty in this phase of the implementation of economic reform. This already has repercussions on economic output. Manufacturers of equipment are finding it difficult to finance domestic and foreign purchases.

The FEC president noted that this difficulty was taken into account when devising the reform project, although it is somewhat more marked because the envisioned ceilings were broken through at the beginning of the year. Last month's inflation, nonetheless, halted at 2.6 percent. Already, in this month we count on negative inflation. Last Tuesday and Wednesday the FEC did not receive a single notice about price raises, but just about price reductions.

Obviously, economic laws are starting to operate, and producers are setting prices at levels that buyers can afford. The problem is not to give away goods or to sell them artificially at a high price to someone who cannot afford them. Businessmen must themselves ensure business deals with good partners and prompt payers, even if they have to lower prices.

In the course of the talks with businessmen, the FEC president dwelt on the need for a speedier restructuring of the economy. Last night the International Bank for Restructuring and Development decided to approve a loan of $400 million to Yugoslavia for its structural development. An agreement about this will be signed soon. Together with the already approved $600 million from the IMF, this makes $1 billion earmarked for restructuring of our economy. We should embark on this task resolutely and as soon as possible, Ante Markovic underlined.

The FEC president and his aides assess favorably the results of the reform so far. It is believed that foreign currency reserves have reached $8.2 billion today. In the past few months, all outstanding debts to foreign partners to the tune of $4 billion were repaid. This is the basis for permanently keeping the dinar convertible as a key lever of the economic reform.

The FEC president announced the possibility of lifting limits on bank lending and on personal incomes soon, as a part of efforts for market laws and laws of business success to start operating in this field, too. Social accounting services, with the help of a group of foreign experts, started to revise the banks' final accounts. So, it is expected that soon financial recovery of individual banks will start, but not of the entire system. According to Markovic, it is already known that at least three to four banks would go bankrupt. Some banks will need financial recovery so that they will change owners, that is, who gives money will own them. Expert De Juan, who already worked on the financial recovery of 108 banks in the world, is engaged in the resolution of the problem of banks that need to go bankrupt.

Obligatory Border Exchange Rate Established

LD1404030790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2157 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 13 (TANJUG)—According to the latest decision of the Yugoslav Government, citizens of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Romania, Poland and the Soviet Union will from now on be obliged to exchange for dinars a sum of 200 U.S. dollars per person on entering Yugoslavia, the government's Secretariat for Information stated on Friday [13 April]. The decision follows on an exceptionally high increase in the number of travellers entering the country from Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania who can by no standards be classified as tourists.

Travellers arriving in package tours of travel agencies or those in transit through Yugoslavia, the holders of local border passes or diplomatic passports, those on business journeys and children under 14 have been exempt from this regulation.

According to Yugoslav customs records, over 215,000 Bulgarian citizens visited Yugoslavia in the first three months of this year, compared to about 300,000 for the whole of 1989.

Meanwhile, 23,000 travellers entered Yugoslavia from Romania by way of the Karatas crossing last January, 150,000 in February and as many as 400,000 in March, a majority of them trying to bring in goods obviously intended for sale. With the money obtained in this way, citizens of East European countries buy foreign exchange from illegal middlemen and take it out of the country.

The introduction of obligatory exchange of currency is expected to reduce the number of such "visitors" and shorten the time of waiting in front of Yugoslav border crossings ahead of the main tourist season.

Tito, Others Blamed for 'Mass Murder'

AU1304155190 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1330 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Text] The Democratic Peasant Ecological Party of Yugoslavia has sent a letter to the SFRY Assembly proposing that the postwar decision setting up concentration camps in Yugoslavia, such as Goli Otok, Grgur, and others, be rejected as unnatural, genocidal, unconstitutional, and directed against the interests of Yugoslavia.

The executive committee informs the SFRY Assembly and the public that it has filed criminal charges against all the Politburo members of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia at that time who decided on the establishment of Goli Otok, and specifically against Nikola Bugarcic, Petar Stambolic, the brothers Generals Miskovic, Gen. Nikola Ljubicic, Svetozar Vukanovic Tempo, Marija Zelic, Nikola Petrovic, and Bane Andrejev.

At the same time, the said party accuses Josip Broz Tito and Peko Dapcevic of causing the mass murder of children from Serbia who, on orders of the Yugoslav Supreme Command, were sent to the Srem front and other fronts during World War II, although they were not yet of age to serve in the Army and had not received any basic military training.

Skundric Discusses Situation in LCY

AU1304115690 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 9 Apr 90 p 5

[Report on interview with Petar Skundric, Presidium secretary of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY), by Dragan Bisenic; place and date not given: "Against the LCY with the LCY Statute"]

[Excerpts] The walkout from the "working-consultative" session of the Central Committee [CC] of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] by the members of the LCY CC from Bosnia-Hercegovina following the speech by Presidium Secretary Petar Skundric has raised many questions about how the until recently sacred federal leadership operates. From time to time, the public was only briefly informed about the meetings of the LCY CC that took place after the 14th LCY Extraordinary Congress. The "period of silence" and, no doubt, tactical political operations that followed, left the impression of confusion and lack of preparedness on the part of the federal party leadership to harmonize its behavior with that of the federal units, on the one hand, and the foreboding that such secrecy is the sign of a certain plot on the other hand.

In his interview for BORBA, Petar Skundric, who is otherwise extremely "unpopular" as a politician in many parts of the country, said that the essence of the current confrontations does not lie in different program orientations. "Our orientations are identical as regards democratic socialism and the federal organization. However,

the destruction and breaking up of the party is an indication of the breaking up of the state community," Skundric said adding an even sharper diagnosis that "the entire state and social organization has been seriously attacked."

Efforts Along Tolerance

[Bisenic] The letter sent to the LCY membership states, among other things, the following: "We knew that since the break-off of the congress until now several meetings were held in the Presidium of the LCY CC, but we were only informed about them through brief statements." What kind of meetings are we talking about, what were they about, and who were they attended by?

[Skundric] We are talking about major efforts made by the Presidium of the LCY CC, immediately after the interruption of the 14th extraordinary congress and according to the conclusions of the second plenary session, to create as soon and effectively as possible conditions for the continuation of the congress. The main results of these efforts are a document prepared by the Presidium for the CC and the congress in which the Presidium presented concrete proposals as to how controversial issues that led to the interruption of the congress should be resolved. Almost all members of the LCY CC Presidium took part in the work, except the colleagues from Slovenia who unilaterally decided to leave the party offices and organizations. [passage omitted]

Initiators of Campaign Against Publicity

[Bisenic] What is your view concerning the demand for the continuation of the congress without the complete Presidium and the CC of the LCY, that is to say, do you believe that these two bodies really exist considering the present circumstances?

[Skundric] Not only do I think that the LCY bodies exist, but I am also convinced that they are quite legitimate. I am proceeding from a conclusion adopted by the congress—which is the only authority for us—that, let us recall, stated that the LCY bodies should continue the work and prepare political foundations for convening the 14th extraordinary congress. Therefore, they were given legitimate and clear tasks by the congress. I have been doing my best in the Presidium and other bodies on the implementation of these tasks. It is known that, in contrast to this thesis that you mentioned, there is also a thesis according to which the LCY's bodies do not exist and are not legitimate. People insist on some statutory provisions that, in my view, as well as the view of many other people, do not recognize such situations.

How can somebody who has formally and actually completely left the LCY, who has separated himself from the party in every sense, forbid the remaining parts of the LCY, that is, the remaining majority of members and parts, to exist and stop functioning? [passage omitted]

The aim of this campaign about the nonexistence of the LCY and its bodies is actually to prevent the continuation of the LCY. The essential question in all this is whether the LCY will remain as one party or not. The agony has started and must be ended with this central question. However, the initiators of this campaign refuse to be clear on this issue. The full independence of political parties that is now being proclaimed in some republics appears to be aimed at eliminating the possibility of the existence of the LCY as a single political party in Yugoslavia. I fear, however, that this is not everything and that there are much more serious intentions behind this, and that what is being attempted as regards the LCY is an introduction to breaking up the federation into single independent republican states.

[Bisenic] You hold the view that without a unified Yugoslav party there will be no Yugoslavia, but you do not identify the fate of Yugoslavia with that of the LCY. If it is not the LCY, which other unified Yugoslav party could this be, and what would its program be based on? What would happen to the LCY in this case?

[Skundric] What I have just said about the disintegration of the LCY and the Yugoslav federation is the essence of my stand because I think that there can be no modern federal state without a parliamentary democracy, without political parties that go beyond the republican and provincial framework. Insistence on parties within the framework of only one republic can really only mean the definite preparation of the real state borders of the republics and independent states.

Breakup Despite a Majority

[Bisenic] Why is Dr. Nijaz Durakovic accusing you?

[Skundric] Comrade Nijaz Durakovic has clearly and publicly presented his accusations. The best thing would be to ask Comrade Durakovic himself. However, according to what has been published in the newspapers, I understand that he mainly criticized me for presenting at the LCY CC session "the stands that were formulated in advance and that were not verified anywhere." [passage omitted]

Constitutional Commission Discusses Amendments

LD1204224890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1436 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—This morning's general discussion among members of the Constitutional Commission about the working version of the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution showed that only formulations concerning human rights and free political association can count on the support of everyone who took part in today's session.

The Constitutional Commission working group, which put forward the draft amendments, was aware of the fact that the agreement will be impossible to reach on a

number of amendments. Mijat Sukovic, leader of the working group, acknowledged this today and went on to add that the draft amendments should be sent as soon as possible to the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber so that this body can submit them for public discussion. Only after the debate is over, fully endorsed solutions should be incorporated into the proposed amendments, Sukovic said. The working group assessed that it could be beneficial for the amendments to be adopted in two phases. In the first, amendments for which a swift agreement could be secured would be adopted, while, at the same time, the work on controversial amendments would continue. The latter would be adopted at a later stage, Sukovic added. [passage omitted: details of the proposed amendments; Jernej Rovsek of Slovenia recalls recent multiparty elections in his republic and noted that Slovenia will support only constitutional solutions laying down that Yugoslavia is a confederation; Budimir Kosutic of Serbia urges universal franchise and direct, secret elections; Ema Derosi Bjelac of Croatia notes that the to-be-elected Croat Assembly will make final decision about the proposed amendments; Vlado Kambovski asserts that the proposals have to be adopted as a whole because only then do they make sense; Zoran Sokolovic supports Federal Executive Council original intentions when setting in motion changes in the SFRY Constitution]

After this, a discussion on individual amendments followed. In the discussion, there were almost as many proposals as speakers. The basic formulation of Amendment 49, proposing striking off five sections of the basic principles of the SFRY Constitution, was adopted by majority of votes.

This refers to Section II—that socialist social order is grounded on the power of the working class; Section III—establishing social ownership as being of paramount importance; Section IV—envisioning self-managing democracy as a special form of the dictatorship of the proletariat; and section VIII—speaking about the leading role of the LCY. Section X, which in fact prescribes that all other basic sections be mandatory in order to interpret the normative part of the Constitution and law, was also omitted.

The proposal to add to the basic solution of Amendment 49 an alternative envisioning striking off all basic principles of the SFRY Constitution, except the first one that, as known, defines the SFRY as a federal republic of equal nations and nationalities, in which freedom and independence, brotherhood and unity, was adopted by a substantial majority of votes. [passage omitted: the next session of the Constitutional Commission, scheduled for the middle of the next week is to discuss other amendments]

3 New Political Parties Founded 15 Apr

LD1504202690

[Editorial Report] Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian on 15 April carries a series of reports on new parties in Yugoslavia.

At 1319 GMT, a Tetovo-datelined report relates the 15 April founding of the party for the Democratic Prosperity of Macedonia [Partija za Demokratski Prosperitet Makedonije] in Tetovo. The party has been set up by a number of Macedonians, Albanians, Turks, and Romanies. It will insist on the protection of human rights and freedoms, and on the equality of all nations. Halim Nevzeti, a lecturer from Tetovo, was elected party president.

At 1414 GMT, a Strumica-datelined report announces the 15 April founding assembly of the Democratic Alliance of Farmers of Macedonia [Demokratski Savez Poljoprivrednika Makedonije] in the village of Selo, near Strumica. Its main aims are the development of agriculture, democratization, and the promotion of national values. So far, 3,150 members have joined the Alliance.

At 1543 GMT, a Bosanska Gradiska-datelined report describes the founding assembly of the Yugoslav Peasant Party [Seljacka Jugoslovenska Stranka] on 15 April in Bosanska Gradiska. The party will strive for a united Yugoslavia based on AVNOJ, Antifascist Council of the National Liberation of Yugoslavia, and for participation in the making of agricultural policies. Ismet Sejfija and the party council will head the party until its regular leadership is elected.

People's Party Principles Outlined

LD1304225990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1402 GMT 13 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Titograd, 13 Apr (TANJUG)—The program principles of the People's Party [narodna stranka], which will officially come onto the political scene of Montenegro and Yugoslavia next month, were presented today in Titograd in the presence of numerous journalists. The basic standpoint of this party is that it is an independent party of sovereign people and sovereign individuals, but not sovereign nations. The party will promote, as stressed, a full national and religious equality, and it will champion full national rights of minorities envisioned by international conventions in the UN spirit. It will demand the same rights for our national minorities in other states.

The People's Party also holds that the Yugoslav state should exist and should be called a federal republic of Yugoslavia. In order to do this, it would be necessary for all socialist republics to hold referendums. If a republic does not favor a federal Yugoslavia, then a federal Yugoslavia can be formed out of the remaining republics. In the last instance, which representatives of the People's Party do not hope for, they hold that the

Montenegrin and Serbian states could form a federal republic of Yugoslavia. [passage omitted]

Democratic Christians Outline Views

LD1304141390

[Editorial Report] Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1505 GMT on 13 April carries an interviw with Democratic Christian Party Chairman Stjepan Herceg, Vice Chairman Mirko Pupic-Bakrac, and Secretary Pasko Romic. Stjepan Herceg says the party was officially registerd on 30 March 1990, which does not mean that the party's ideas are new. When asked by the announcer why they did not join the existing Croat Christian Democratic Party, Herceg says the Croat Christian Democratic Party should not have joined the Coalition of National Accord because some parties incorporated in the coalition, such as the Liberal Party, are incompatible with the ideas and goals that a Christian Democratic Party should advocate.

They have joined the Croat Democratic Bloc, which is headed by the Croat Democratic Community, he says, because they support the same main goal: a new political system in Croatia that is to be a sovereign democratic state with the right to secede if the will of the people demands it. The party is in favor of a confederal Yugoslavia.

Belgrade Election Program Not Shown

LD1304021190 Belgrade TANJUG Domstic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1939 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, 12 Apr (TANJUG)—Zagreb Television this evening did not broadcast an entertainment and information program of Belgrade Television, which was scheduled for the Serbo-Croat-speaking area.

Having apologized to the viewers for the unscheduled change in the program, Zagreb Television explained that "as announced in the press, today's program contained a contribution on 'preelection roulette in Croatia.' The guidelines of Zagreb Radio and Television program policy during the election activities (Article Four), envision that, due to the special responsibility of Zagreb Television, this television enterprise would not broadcast election programs of other television stations.

"All stations of Yugoslav Radio and Television were acquainted with these conclusions of the Zagreb Radio and Television workers' council, and were asked to abstain from making election programs.

"Since we are in the final stage of the preelection campaign, and Belgrade Television, judging by the press announcement, did not comply with our guidelines, this evening we will not broadcast its entertainment and information program," the statement for the viewers noted.

Committee for Youth Leaders' Defense Founded

LD0904211290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1715 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, 9 Apr (TANJUG)—Under the auspice of the Pristina branch of the Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative [Udruzenje za Jugoslevensku Demokratsku Inicijative], today "the Committee for the Protection and Release of the Arrested Leaders of the Kosovo Youth Parliament" was founded. Skeljzen Malici will preside over the work of the committee, it was said at the first news conference of the newly formed organization. The committee consists also of the prominent "alternative politicians" Veton Suroi, Isuf Berisa, Ilber Hisa, Gzim Pulja, Nerimana Kamberi and Don Ljus Djerdji, a Catholic priest.

The committee, as noted in its first statement, "will invest efforts in engaging the public of Kosovo, Serbia, Yugoslavia and the world so that the arrested young democrats are released as soon as possible; it will conduct a public investigation into the case and demand a full inspection of the publicity of the work of investigative bodies. For that aim, the committee will organize appropriate actions of support and help for the arrested people."

The immediate reason for the formation of this committee is the arrest of Haljilj Matosi, president of "the Youth Parliament," an alternative organization consisting mainly of students of exclusively Albanian nationality; Bljerim Salja, member of the parliament Presidium, and his brother Ljuzim Salja, a leader of this organization's branch in Radio Pristina.

Representatives of "the Youth Parliament" protested publicly against the arrest of their leaders and appraised that act "as a reply by the Serbian government, with the approval of the federation, to the Kosovo alternative movement's demands for free elections and legalisation of political activity of the Kosovo citizens." Thus, they appeal "to all Kosovo citizens, and demand that their members refrain from any hasty action that would be contrary to 'their orientations'."

Paper on New Parties' Army Concepts

AU0904185590 Belgrade NARODNA ARMIJA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Mar 90 p 6

[Miso Bojovic article: "Demos' Army"]

[Excerpts] With the forthcoming elections coming closer, the chameleon-like political behavior of leaders of some parties is becoming more conspicuous. They are most often promising voters things that they never asked for, thus even using Machiavellian moves to "tune" the election atmosphere. Along with spending a lot of money, one has also been spreading numerous fallacies in this quasi-democracy. Some individually and some as part of a coalition, many of the about 90 already formed parties are giving demands for a confederation and national armies a prominent place in their political and

promotional campaign, thereby romantically hoping for full economic, political, and military sovereignty. In order to gain economic sovereignty, they demand national money, and in order to gain political sovereignty, they demand republican army units.

The Elaborated "Military" Question

The heads of the united Slovene opposition—Demos—demand the exclusive authority of the sovereign Slovene state to defend Slovene territory. They also "prove" that Slovenia should have an army consisting of 12,000-15,000 conscripts and 5,000-6,000 officers, as well an operational reserve of 40,000-60,000 soldiers. It should also have a defense ministry, a military academy that would be a part of the university, and its own military industry. They say that in the case of war they will be able to call up as many as 190,000 soldiers. Elaborating on the "military issue" further, Demos says that after it is formed, the republican army should be immediately subordinated to the republican assembly. The Slovenes would not go outside "their country," but would serve the army "at home;" in the army, they would listen to orders in Slovene; the Republican Territorial Defense Command would be in charge of training; military service would last only six months; and, as they have calculated using their own methods, instead of the present 7.5 percent ($750 million) of the Slovene national revenue, the cost of the army would be reduced to 2-3 percent. Later in their forecasts, the Demos people announce the dissolution of the army in the case of a united Europe being constituted as a confederation. For the time being until that island of Euro-freedom is formed, they have designed a plan for the operational districts of the Slovene armed forces and that determines the stages of their formation. The Slovene territory would be divided into three or four operational districts. The armed forces of Slovenia would consist of approximately 12 divisions and 10 specialized independent brigades of ground forces, several aircraft (helicopter) squadrons, and a naval unit. They would unite all of this into three to four corps. Cadres for the air force and the navy would be educated abroad. Finally, in connection with all this, they would start negotiating with other Yugoslav lands about how to divide Army property. Therefore, everything has been planned; they only have to publicize the names of the army minister and main commanders. [passage omitted]

Concepts of "republican armies" are being promoted in other parts of our country, too. Thus, the Serbian National Renewal speaks, among other things, about the task of some future Serbian army being to defend the Serbian state borders and to train recruits who will do so. Obligations to Yugoslavia should be precisely envisioned by a special law. Instead of the present names, in the "multiparty parliamentary constitutional Kingdom of Serbia"—including the Serbian provinces in other republics that will have been acceded to it—one would introduce new names for army barracks, such as "Milos Obilic," "Bajo Pivljanin," "Janko Vukotic [names of Serbian legendary heroes]," and similar ones. By the way, one would hail soldiers with, "God be with you, men!" [salutation used in the prewar Yugoslav Army]

The Multitude of Defense "Concepts"

Advocating a sovereign and independent state of the Croatian people "within its natural borders (the Drina—author's remark)," the Croatian Democratic Community is in favor of "relations with neighboring peoples in the present SFRY and in Europe to be settled by a contract." Thereby, the community advocates the "unification" [word used in the Independent State of Croatia during World War II] of the Socialist Republic of Croatia and the Socialist Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, because they "represent a natural, inseparable, geopolitical whole and their history destines them to be together." Many things in such a state—including its military setup, which the Croatian Democratic Community is approaching with care for the time being—would certainly have some connotations of the independent state of Croatia. [passage omitted]